THE NEW
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FRESH TENSIONS AS CHINESE, FILIPINO SHIPS COLLIDE IN DISPUTED WATERS

The incident near the Second Thomas Shoal in the South China Sea (SCS) comes amid rising tensions and dangerous military maneuvers by both sides

BEIJING, MANILA POINT FINGERS AT EACH OTHER

The Chinese coast guard said a Philippine supply ship entered the waters near the Second Thomas Shoal, ignored warnings and dangerously approached a Chinese vessel, resulting in Monday's collision. The Philippines says the shoal and the waters nearby fall within its exclusive economic zone and Chinese ships have no business being there — a claim disputed by Beijing | P9

A MAJOR FLASHPOINT IN SOUTH CHINA SEA

- Several incidents of near collision have been reported in recent months near the shoal, where Manila maintains a post aboard a World War II-era ship
- The incident comes at a time when China is aggressively pursuing its territorial claims in the SCS. Just days ago, a new Chinese law took effect that allows for detention of foreigners who enter SCS without permission

1,000+ km

IS THE DISTANCE BETWEEN MAINLAND CHINA AND THE SECOND THOMAS SHOAL

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Rescue work underway after a speeding goods train rammed into the stationary Kanchanjunga Express near Rangapani railway station in West Bengal on Monday | PTI

Goods train rams express, kills 9

Stationary Kanchanjunga Express hit in the rear by speeding goods train in West Bengal

SULAGNA SENGUPTA & RAJESH THAKUR @ Kolkata / New Delhi

A fast-moving goods train rammed into a stationary passenger express from behind in West Bengal's Darjeeling district on Monday morning, killing at least nine persons and injuring over 40 others. The toll may go up as the condition of some of the injured are said to be serious.

According to reports, the goods train overshot the red signal at high speed and collided with the Sealdah-bound Kanchanjunga Express. The impact was such that four rear compartments of Kanchanjunga Express were thrown off track. The loco pilot of the goods train, which was on its way from Agartala in Tripura to Sealdah (West Bengal), and a guard of the passenger train are among those killed.

The collision occurred near Rangapani station, 30 km from New Jalpaiguri station. The Kavach anti-collision system has not been implemented on the route, said an official.

Local media reports quoting police sources pegged the toll at 15. While the Commissioner of Railway Safety has initiated a probe, conflicting versions emerged. Speaking to media persons in Delhi, Railway Board Chairperson Jaya Varma Sinha blamed the loco pilot of the goods train for the accident. "The collision happened because the goods train disregarded the signal and hit the Kanchanjunga Express," he said.

However, the loco pilots' union said the automatic signalling system was defective since 5.50 am on Monday and the loco pilot had got written authorisation to go past the signals. The document, called TA 912, was reportedly issued to the driver of the goods train by the station master of Ranipatra, authorising him to cross all red signals. However, officials said even with TA 912, the train should have moveed at 15 kmph. This speed limit seems to have been breached, said sources.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw rushed to the accident spot to take stock of the rescue efforts. He also announced ₹10 lakh ex gratia to the next of kin of the deceased. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee alleged that the Rail ministry is not bothered about passenger safety.

Rahul picks Rae Bareli, Priyanka to make poll debut from Wayanad

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra embrace before announcing that she will contest the Wayanad seat after he gives it up, in New Delhi on Monday | PTI

ENDING suspense, the Congress on Monday announced that former party chief Rahul Gandhi will retain the Rae Bareli Lok Sabha constituency and his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra will make her electoral debut from the Wayanad seat. Rahul had won both Rae Bareli and Wayanad with a huge margin of votes.

This paper was the first to report on June 7 that Rahul would retain Rae Bareli and let go of the Kerala constituency.

On fielding Priyanka from Wayanad, Congress leaders said the party wanted to send out a message that it hasn't abandoned Wayanad and Kerala. Political observers say that Priyanka's entry is a strategic move by the grand old party ahead of the 2026 Kerala assembly elections.

The decision came after the Congress top leadership met at party president Mallikarjun Kharge's in the national capital. Speaking to the media, Rahul said he has an emotional connection with Rae Bareli and Wayanad and both constituencies will now have two MPs.

"Priyanka will contest from Wayanad, but I will also go there frequently and fulfil all the promises we made to the people. I have an old connection with Rae Bareli and I am happy to represent them, but it wasn't an easy decision. The people of Wayanad supported me. My doors will be always open for them," he said.

For her part, Priyanka said she will help her brother in Rae Bareli and would be available in both seats. Apart from Rahul and Priyanka, Sonia Gandhi and senior leader K C Venugopal were also present in the meeting at Kharge's house.

If Priyanka is elected from Wayanad, Parliament will see all three Gandhi family members — Sonia, Rahul, and Priyanka — in the House. This will also mark a political shift in the party as the Congress seeks to increase its footprint in the politically crucial Uttar Pradesh after its strong show in the recent Lok Sabha elections.

The leadership believes that the Congress is on a revival path in UP after winning six seats with an increase in its vote share. The SP-Congress alliance won 43 of 80 seats in the elections. "The party is also eying the assembly elections in the state 2027. The Rahul-Akhilesh combo will boost the alliance," said a leader.

Shah: Fresh peace talks with Meiteis & Kukis

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

UNION home minister Amit Shah on Monday said the Centre would hold talks with both the Meiteis and the Kukis to bridge the ethnic divide in Manipur and restore peace and tranquility at the earliest. He made the statement at a high-level meeting to review the security situation there amidst reports of fresh incidents of trouble in the state.

Shah was given a detailed briefing on the situation by Security Advisor to the Manipur government Kuldiep Singh, DGP Rajiv Singh and Chief Secretary Vineet Joshi.

The home minister assured that the head count of Central Armed Police Forces would be increased if required and directed them to ensure their strategic deployment.

He also asked the officials to take strict legal action against those who indulge in violence, officials said.

As for those at relief camps, Shah directed Chief Secretary Vineet Joshi to ensure proper health and education facilities for the displaced people and their rehabilitation.

The home minister took stock of the situation a day after Manipur Governor Anusuiya Uikey called on him here. On June 10, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat had expressed concern over peace eluding Manipur for over a year.

There were reports of fresh violence in capital Imphal and Jiribam recently, the officials said, adding that the Centre is worried over the violence spreading to new areas like Jiribam, which has been by and large peaceful in the past one year since the ethnic clashes erupted in May 2023, the sources said.

Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, Director of Intelligence Bureau Tapan Deka, Army Chief Gen Manoj Pande, Army Chief-designate Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi were present at the hour-long meeting.

RENUKASWAMY'S MURDER

Man who gave electric shocks to victim nabbed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Vijaynagar sub-division police investigating the **Renukaswamy** murder case have arrested another accused, who had allegedly given electric shocks to the victim with a megger device. The police have reportedly recovered the device. With this arrest, the number of accused arrested in the case has gone up to 17.

Meanwhile, the police recorded the statement of actor Chikkanna, who reportedly attended a party at Stonny Brook pub from where actor Darshan allegedly went to the shed at Pattanagere in RR Nagar where Renukaswamy was murdered.

The police gave the name of the accused as Raju alias Dhanaraj, a dog breeder from RR Nagar. He worked at Darshan's house and took care of his dogs. Raju is accused No 9 in the case and was absconding. He was arrested from his friend's house in the city on Sunday.

V Vinay, accused No 10, who lived at Jayanna's (shed owner) farmhouse at Pattanagere, had introduced Raju to Darshan. Among the accused, S Nandeesh of Krishnappa Layout in RR Nagar and Raju are alleged to have given electric shocks to Renukaswamy at the behest of Vinay.

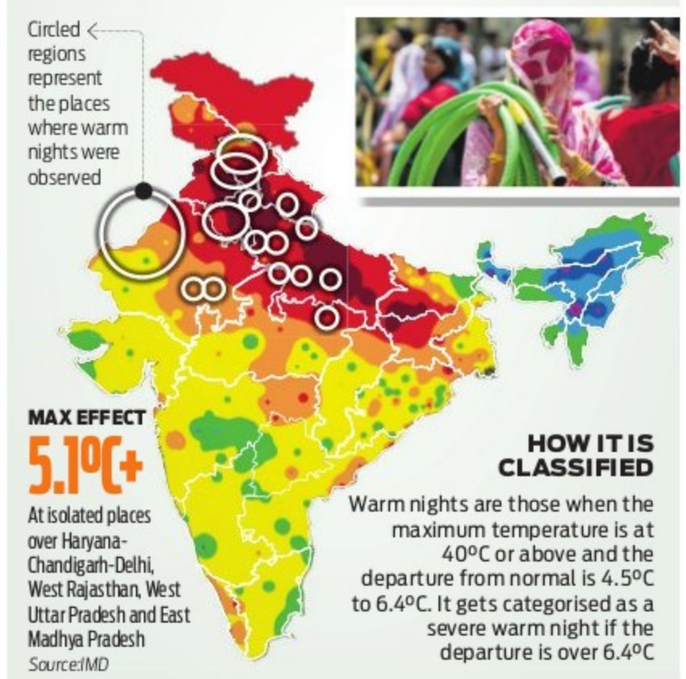
During interrogation, none of the accused told the police about electric shocks given to the victim. This, however, came to light during postmortem. The accused are alleged to have given electric shocks to the private parts of the victim. The police are looking for the chair on which the victim was made to sit. Raju is said to have purchased the device online. He purchased it long ago and the police suspect that the device was used to give electric shocks to loan defaulters who were brought to the shed.

Special public prosecutor P Prasanna Kumar, while seeking police custody of the accused on Saturday, informed the court about electric shocks given to the victim. P3

EXPRESS MAPS

Now, night 'heatwaves'

With the North continuing to bake, warm night to severe warm night conditions observed some parts of Haryana-Chandigarh-Delhi and in isolated pockets of UP on Monday. Warm night conditions observed in isolated pockets of Punjab, Rajasthan and West Madhya Pradesh



India committed to boost strategic ties with US: PM

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi greets US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan

INDIA is committed to strengthening its comprehensive global strategic partnership with the US, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday after meeting the US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, who is on an official visit to India.

"Met US National Security Advisor @JakeSullivan46. India is committed to further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership for global good," Modi wrote on X.

Sullivan briefed Modi on the progress achieved in various areas of bilateral cooperation, particularly under the Initiation on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).

"PM expressed satisfaction at the speed and scale of the growing bilateral partnership in all areas and the convergence of views on regional and global issues of mutual interest," a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs said.

Sullivan also met the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar. "We had a comprehensive discussion on a broad range of bilateral, regional and global issues. We are confident that India-US strategic partnership will continue to advance strongly in our new team," Jaishankar wrote on X.

Earlier in the day, Sullivan and Doval co-chaired the second meeting of iCET where they reviewed the progress in implementing the ambitious initiative. The two discussed ways to bridge the innovation ecosystems in various sectors. India and the US will provide more than $90 million over the next five years for the India-US Global Challenges Institute which will forge collaborations between institutions in critical and emerging technologies like semiconductors.

No water, power, road for 70 tribal families at Kodagu settlement

PRAJNA G R @ Madikeri

WHILE tribal people are given land under the Forest Rights Act, getting basic amenities has remained a challenging task for them. Thatalli tribal settlement at Maldare near Siddapura in Kodagu is a testimony to this.

For, the tribal people living in this settlement are yet to get electricity, toilets, water supply, and houses. With no help coming, they have threatened to launch a protest until their demands for basic amenities are met.

Over 70 families, including children and the aged, live in the settlement. Though a temporary water connection has been provided by Maldare gram panchayat, the residents of the settlement have to walk a distance to fetch water. This is because there is no electricity to enable piped water supply.

A hut in the Thatalli tribal settlement at Maldare near Siddapura in Kodagu

The residents, who have been living on the forest fringe for over seven decades, were granted RTC recently for the land given to them under the Forest Rights Act.

"Only a few families have been given some facilities. Though we have been granted RTC under the Act, no facilities, including permanent houses, have been given," Shankar, leader of the tribal people living in the settlement, alleged.

He said most of them are living in huts. "There are no approach roads to the settlement. Over 40 people had applied for benefits under the Ganga Kalyan scheme, but only a few have been selected. P5

Fuel prices in K'taka lower than BJP-ruled states: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

HITTING out at BJP leaders for protesting against the state government for increasing sales tax on petrol and diesel by Rs 3 per litre, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said they should protest against the NDA government at the Centre under Prime Minister Narendra Modi for creating an environment where it has become inevitable for the state to increase taxes.

"Fuel prices in our state are lower than BJP-ruled states even after sales tax hike on petrol and diesel. Had the state received its tax share from the Centre on time, it would have not hiked the sales tax on petrol and diesel," the CM told reporters.

He said, "During the UPA rule under Dr Manmohan Singh, the price of crude oil in the international market was $113 per barrel. Although this price halved in 2015, Modi did not show any concern to bring down the fuel prices and reduce the burden on people. When Modi came to power, the Central Excise duty on petrol was Rs 9.48. It was increased to Rs 32.98 in May 2020. Who should the BJP fight against?" P4

EXPRESS READ

CID questions BSY for 3 hours in POCSO case

Bengaluru: Former chief minister BS Yediyurappa appeared before the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) on Monday in a POCSO case and was questioned for nearly three hours. Sources said the BJP leader refuted allegations of molesting the 17-year-old victim | P4

Man kills 7-yr-old girl for not buying gutka, held

Koppal: A 52-year-old man has been arrested for killing a seven-year-old girl after she refused to buy gutka for him. The murder took place at Kinnal village in Koppal on April 19 and the girl's body was found two days later. Police cracked the case on Sunday by arresting Siddalingaiah Naikal | P5

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Tuesday: 18.06.2024 • Year: Krodhi • Ayana: Uttharayana
Ritu: Greeshma • Masa: Jyeshta • Paksha: Sukla • Tithi: Dwadasi 5.19 am
Nakshatra: Swathi 2.25 pm • Moon in Vrischika Rashi • Rahukaala: 03:00 am to 04:30 am
Gulikakala: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm • Yamaganda: 09:00 am to 10:30 am

WEATHER
MIN 22°C | MAX 30°C
FORECAST
Isolated tstorms. Overcast

Sunrise 05.54 am
Sunset 06.47 pm
Moonrise 03.32 pm
Moonset 02.34 am

Support women to become atma nirbhar, says UP Governor

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UTTAR Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel participated in a symposium on women empowerment at APS College of Engineering in the city.

Speaking to students and other invitees, she highlighted the importance of supporting women to become 'Atma Nirbhar Naari' (self-reliant women) as India works towards 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India). She stressed on the need to eradicate cervical cancer through vaccination for teenagers and discussed the importance of menstrual health and welfare schemes for pregnant women.

Patel also shed light on the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' initiative, addressing the existing disparities in girls' education and emphasising the need to provide opportunities for young women in health and education sectors.

Prof S C Sharma and Vishnu Bharath Alampalli, vice-president and president, respectively, of the college were present.

Minister promises full-time MD for K-RIDE

Says projects pending for last 15 years will be completed by Dec 2026

Minister of State for Railways V Somanna holds a meeting with officials of South Western Railway Zone on Monday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

MINISTER of State for Railways V Somanna on Monday promised that a full-fledged managing director with technical expertise will be appointed for K-RIDE (Rail Infrastructure Development Company Karnataka Limited) soon.

Briefing newspersons at the Rail House at Cantonment railway station, he said, "We will appoint a full-time MD within 15 to 20 days." The Railway Board has repeatedly asked the state government to appoint a full-time MD for it with the latest letter sent on March 20 by the board chairman to the chief secretary calling for it to be done at the earliest. K-RIDE does not have a permanent MD presently with V Manjula only holding its additional charge.

The minister reviewed all projects carried out by the South Western Railway Zone. He assured that projects pending for the last 15 years will be completed by December 2026. With land acquisition cited as an issue which hampered the projects, Somanna called up the district commissioners in the presence of officials and asked them to speed up the handover of land for the projects. All level crossings in the vicinity of Bengaluru will be closed and trains speeded up, he added.

The 14 crucial projects carried out by SWR which were reviewed today are: The five doubling projects of Hotgi-Kudgi-Gadag line, Yeshwanthpur-Channasandra line; Baiyappanahalli-Hosur line; Bengaluru-Whitefield line and the Hospet-Hubballi-Londa-Tinaighat-Vascao Da Gama line.

The new line projects carried out by SWR cover the following: Tumakuru-Rayadurga via Kalyandurg; Tumakuru-Chitradurga-Davangere; Ginigera-Raichur; Bagalkot-Kudachi; Gadag-Wadi; Kadur-Chikmagalur; Shivamogga-Shikaripura-Ranebennur; Belgaum-Dharwad via Kittur and Hassan Belur.

> **A full-fledged managing director with technical expertise will be appointed for K-RIDE within 15 to 20 days**
> — V Somanna, Minister of State for Railways

Re-tendering done for 8 stns of suburban rail

ENS @Bengaluru

THE second round of tenders to build stations for the Mallige Line (Corridor Two) of the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP) have finally been called for by K-RIDE, the nodal agency for implementing the project. However, instead of 12 stations that dot the 25.57-km line from Benniganahalli to Chikkabanavara, this tender covers only eight of its stations.

The previous tender was cancelled by K-RIDE in November 2023 after it received only a single bid from URC constructions which had quoted around Rs 800 core, almost double that anticipated by K-RIDE, said sources. Tenders were to be called again in February 2024, but got delayed and later the model code of conduct for the Lok Sabha elections came into play.

A source said, "Tenders were called for the eight stations -- Benniganahalli, Kasturi Nagar, Seva Nagar, Banaswadi, Nagawara, Kanaka Nagar, Hebbal and Mathikere -- on Saturday (June 15). Entry/exit structures, steel foot over bridge, roof structures, architectural finishes, plumbing, facade, detailed design and engineering form part of the tender."

K-RIDE will issue tenders for four more stations of Yeshwanthpur, Shettyhalli, Mydarahalli and Chikkabanavara within the next three or four days.

WEATHER TRACKING

IMD writes to IAF for space at Jakkur for Doppler radar

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

AFTER a prolonged search and request to all government and private entities for space on the rooftop of high-rise buildings in Bengaluru to set up a Doppler Weather Radar (DWR), the India Meteorological Department (IMD) is now looking at defence forces for assistance.

IMD officials from the Delhi headquarters and Bengaluru have sent overtures to the Indian Air Force for assistance and have sought space in Jakkur.

It has been nearly a decade since IMD officials have been searching for space in Bengaluru to set up the DWR. As they were not successful, they had decided to use the rooftop of highrise buildings.

"But we have not received any response from private or commercial firms or government departments so far. We approached Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for space at the HAL Airport. But they said IMD already has an observatory on their premises. They suggested that we utilise IAF land at Jakkur aerodrome. We also think that the space will be ideal and DWR will be safe," said a senior IMD official.

IMD has requested IAF to visit the site before taking the final decision. "In principle, IAF has agreed to our request. It has also agreed to help us in setting up a 20-metre tower, if required, to mount the 6.5-tonne radar with radome. However, we need to visit the place and discuss the technical details before starting work on the ground. If all goes well, this

will be the first time in India that a DWR is being set up on air force land. With this, security and management will not be a problem," the official said.

The radar will not affect the biennial Aero-India air show and aviation exhibition held at the Yelahanka Air Force Station. It will also not affect the flying and training sessions held at the Jakkur aerodrome, IMD sources said.

In the meantime, IMD is also working on strengthening the 27 automatic weather stations and 47 automatic rain gauge stations. They are ensuring that all of them are functioning and sending timely data, on the weather -- especially rainfall, to the head office in Bengaluru. Work is also being done to set up seven more rain gauges in Karnataka. These are part of a project to set up 400 such rain gauges across the country.

> **We approached HAL for space at the HAL Airport. But they said IMD has an observatory on their premises. They suggested that we utilise IAF land at Jakkur aerodrome** — Senior IMD official

500 SAPLINGS PLANTED

Water conservationist and environmentalist Anand Malligavd along with Amar Mysore, President, CREDAI Bengaluru, took part in a sapling planting drive at Brigade Orchards premises in Devanahalli as part of World Environment Day on Monday. As many as 500 saplings were planted by members of CREDAI and these will be nurtured by the staff of Brigade Orchards

EXPRESS READ

KIA TO BECOME 2ND IN COUNTRY AFTER DELHI TO HAVE ELEVATED TAXIWAY

Bengaluru: The Kempegowda International Airport operator has floated tenders in connection with construction of a second taxiway for the airport. KIA presently has one taxiway on the eastern side and Expression of Interest has been called for the elevated Western Crossfield taxiway on the West side. An airport source said, "Taxiways help the plane reach the runway from the terminal. At present, the airport has only one taxiway on the Eastern side. The taxiway being proposed is for the second runway, the South Parallel Runway. Aircraft presently use a roundabout way to reach this runway. This will reduce time taken by planes to access the runway as well as save fuel for them." ENS

INCOMPLETE CIVIC WORK LEAVES ROAD IN CAMBRIDGE LAYOUT CONGESTED

DIVYA J @Bengaluru

FOR over eight months, a crucial stretch of the Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Main Road, connecting Cambridge Layout to Indiranagar, has been partially blocked after the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) initiated stormwater drain cleaning operations. Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage (BWSSB) is also constructing drains and laying new pipelines on the same road.

The road was initially dug up to clear the sewage lines that were blocked due to garbage accumulation, and to connect it to a different sewer. The BWSSB also had to lay down new pipelines, resulting in further delay of fixing the road. An open manhole in the middle of the road, which is barricaded by the BBMP, has become a risky obstacle for passersby, especially when it rains in the evenings, say residents. "This particular obstacle has led to severe traffic congestion and has become unbearable. It's a nightmare during rush hour, and it's risky for kids to navigate," said a resident.

Shopkeepers in the area reported witnessing clashes between frustrated drivers attempting to manoeuvre the restricted space. "We've seen fights break out over who should move first. Often, delivery partners who come to pick online orders, are stuck in traffic for a long time, with no way out," said a shopkeeper.

A resident also posted on X about a month ago about the issue tagging the BBMP, to which the Palike responded with a promise of taking action soon. However, no significant progress has been made since.

Stormwater Drain (SWD) officials also confirmed that the BBMP has temporarily halted its work due to the monsoon. He promised that the remaining work will be completed once the rain reduces. "Half the work is done, we were forced to stop work due to the rain, as it is dangerous. Once the rain recedes, we will finish the work. We are clearing up the road to relieve the traffic congestion," said an official.

Nearly half of the Shirdi Sai Baba Temple Main Road at Cambridge Layout is bloacked with construction waste and garbage | HEWIN BYJU

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

18TH June: The Moon is now moving into an imaginative, visionary region. Normally that means that we all have an excuse to kick over the traces, establish new structures and wave farewell to the past. This time I'm not so sure. I have a feeling that we should focus on practical matters for a little while longer.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Mars, your fiery ruling planet, is still forming a powerful relationship with Jupiter, lord of wisdom. We may suspect, then, that all your actions will lie perfectly in harmony with your beliefs, and are all the more successful for being so. That's the good news!

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Your charitable instincts will be at their strongest and, in return, you may be the fortunate recipient of financial aid or other material support. You should experience tangible gains by the end of the week. Relationships with children should improve, but only if your high standards are flexible.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
It's a day for hope and optimism, and you may receive welcome relief from the stress and strain of recent days. As a thinking, intelligent person, it's your responsibility to bring rivals together, enabling them to reach agreement as soon as possible.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
In the absence of what you consider to be a genuine partnership, you may continue to work away by yourself, doing what you consider to be necessary for now. Patience is a virtue at the moment, especially if you've got a problem with people in authority.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
What a day! This is definitely the moment to climb Mount Everest, metaphorically speaking, of course! Further education beckons and, even those of you who have no intention of becoming students, should be searching for a personal path to massive self-improvement.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You're approaching one of those rare times of year when your solar chart is relatively immune to stressful planetary influences. Why don't you seize the opportunity to lay the foundations for future achievements? In love, there's one problem; you may want more affection than anyone can possibly give.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
If you're looking for a way out of a financial mire, investigate the possibilities of either legal assistance or help which may arrive from friends overseas. The answer, though, will not be clear for a few weeks yet. But then the wait will be worth it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
Keep your mind on important matters and try to play down current emotional upsets. Too much time in the past has been spent indulging your own feelings for no good purpose. It's time to rejoin the real world and assert your rightful place as one of the top people.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Saturn, the most sober of all planets, stresses business matters. The sooner you rearrange your priorities and attempt to conserve your resources rather than wasting them, the better. You'll be contemplating learning a creative skill within about three months.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
You'll have to make an early start if you want to make the most of the Moon's constructive alignments. Late risers will find that partners and rivals could have the advantage for the rest of the day. There could be a mystery around today, perhaps involving lost information or instructions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You are entitled to feel that other people have been inconsiderate at work, yet that's no reason to do to others what they have done to you. Practice some of that noble Aquarian idealism, and impress partners with your vision of the future.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
The financial possibilities are extraordinary, even though plans for domestic improvements may still be stalled. Pick your moment carefully and only move when you know you can win. Spare as much time as is needed for romantic adventures - in the biggest sense of the word.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

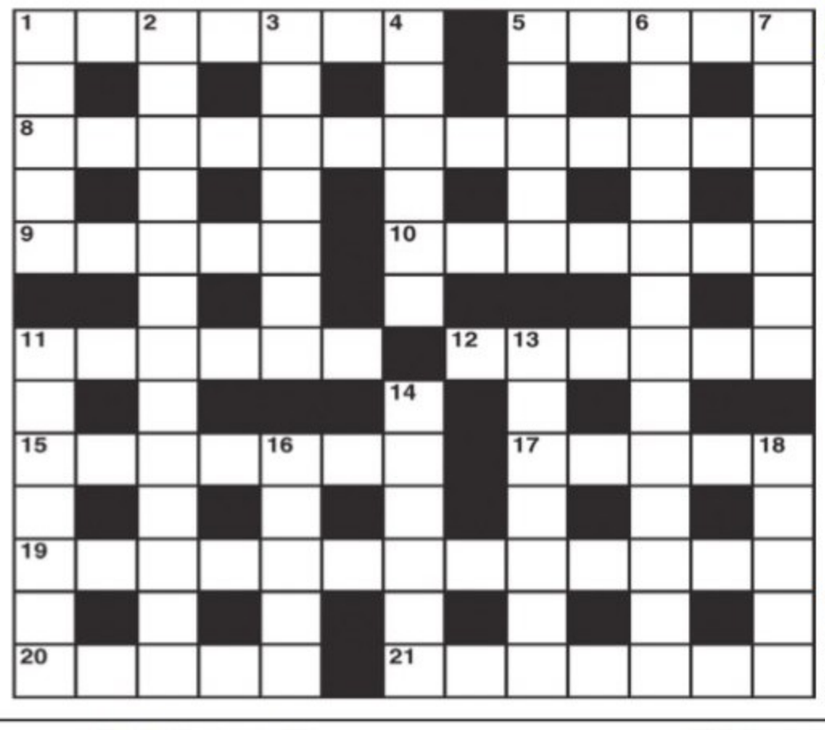
7	1			2		4	3	
	5				4			7
	4		8			9		
4				3				6
			5	8	9			
2				4				1
		7			8		2	
1			9				6	
	8	4		6			7	5

5	8	9	2	4	7	3	6	1
4	7	6	3	1	9	8	2	5
1	3	2	8	6	5	4	9	7
8	6	3	7	5	2	9	1	4
9	1	5	6	8	4	2	7	3
7	2	4	9	3	1	5	8	6
2	5	8	1	7	3	6	4	9
6	4	7	5	9	8	1	3	2
3	9	1	4	2	6	7	5	8

SUDOKU MEDIUM

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Where lots are knocked down (7)
5 Used by a bowman leading Don Quixote's horse (5)
8 Style of architecture that may be dropped (13)
9 An inspiration to entertain (5)
10 Its launchers hope it will sink (7)
11 Figure it may be burnt (6)
12 Country lovers (6)
15 Just a Conservative slogan? (7)
17 Understand it is a number less than 10 (5)
19 Go out of your way to show how supple you are? (4,9)
20 Free from fault (5)
21 Series of street calls (7)

DOWN
1 First-class letter (5)
2 Is it measured in round figures? (13)
3 In the main its chief danger remains hidden (7)
4 Sun-worshippers take off for this state (6)
5 Come again about the dog (5)
6 Joining a club used by electricians (9,4)
7 Apprehensive over sun treatment (7)
11 Be equal to change in uniform (7)
13 His wife will be late (7)
14 Capital form of punishment (6)
16 Mocked the wrong bid for example (5)
18 They are found growing next to a trunk (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Oscar, 8 Handsome, 9 Fence, 10 Serenade, 11 Study, 12 Eire, 16 Kernel, 17 Nursed, 18 Med, 23 Motto, 24 Sinecure, 25 Trunk, 26 Departed, 27 Adult.

Down: 2 Sceptres, 3 Accident, 4 Career, 5 Idler, 6 Woman, 7 Level, 12 Elm, 13 End, 14 Armoured, 15 Sentinel, 19 Earned, 20 Aside, 21 Snipe, 22 Score.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

KSIKO

SRIHT

TWREET

SIRICS

He's the best, and we wanted him here and happy.
There's so much to think about.
Any plans on how to spend the money?
4/23
THE BEST PITCHER IN THE LEAGUE SIGNED THE NEW CONTRACT SO THAT HE COULD ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CRIMP EVENT PAYDAY INVENT
Answer: When she tried to take away her feline's favorite aromatic herb toy, her — CAT NIPPED

A branch of Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences, whose construction is nearing completion, in Kalaburagi would be inaugurated in the last week of August or in the first week of September, said Minister for Medical Education Dr Sharanaprakash Patil on Monday

HC PERMITS ACCUSED TO MARRY VICTIM HE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE High Court of Karnataka has granted interim bail to a 23-year-old youth from Mysuru enabling him to marry an 18-year-old girl with a baby born after he sexually assaulted her when she was a minor.

This order has been issued considering the peculiarity of the case as the mother has to bring up the child. The newborn should not suffer ignominy of any kind in future. Therefore, to protect the interests of the child and the mother, this order has been issued, Justice M Nagaprasanna said.

According to the interim order, the youth should be released from prison on June 17 and return by July 3. He should produce the marriage certificate before the court on July 4, when his case will be heard. He should mark his attendance once a week at the jurisdictional police station in Mysuru, the court said.

According to a complaint filed by the victim's mother, the accused and her daughter, who was studying in a school in Mysuru, were in love. On February 2, 2023, the accused took the girl, who was then a minor, on his bike to an isolated place where he sexually assaulted her.

After a case was registered the next day, the accused was sent to judicial custody. Meanwhile, the girl gave birth to the child. The accused filed a petition for annulment of the proceedings. The counsels of the accused and the girl submitted that they were in love, but their parents were against it. Therefore, they sought closure of these proceedings, considering the accused's wish to marry the victim so that she and their child are not left in the lurch. Now, both the families favoured the marriage of the accused and the girl. Therefore, the court should consider the petition, the counsels told the court.

Meanwhile, the DNA report produced before the court stated that the accused and the victim are the biological father and mother of the child.

The judge said the mother has to bring up her child at this tender age. Considering the future of the mother and the child, the court permits the accused to marry the victim, who is now aged above 18.

BBMP workers search for Renukaswamy's phone in the open drain where his body was thrown, on Monday

7 HAD NO CONTACT WITH DARSHAN

Of the 17 accused, seven are said to have not met Darshan even once. Among the accused, V Karthik alias Kappe, R Keshavmurthy, both residents of Girinagar, and L Nikhil Nayak of BG Road were reportedly taken to Mysuru by Pavan to strike a deal to claim responsibility for the murder.

VICTIM'S PHONE YET TO BE TRACED

The police searched the Sumanahalli stormwater drain on Monday for the victim's cell phone, which is crucial in the case. The phone was missing when the victim's body was recovered 10 days ago. It was switched off on June 8 when he was kidnapped. The phone was switched on near the shed at Pattanagere for a while and switched off.

Cops try to retrieve CCTV data

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

POLICE officers on Monday issued a notice to comedian Chikkanna and he appeared before them in the evening. He was taken to Stonny Brook pub along with Darshan, pub owner Vinay and other accused. Chikkanna is said to have been made a witness in the murder case. After the spot mahazar, he was brought to the station for questioning. Before the murder, Darshan along with his friends, including Chikkanna and a producer, are said to have partied in the pub. Meanwhile, the accused are alleged to have deleted the footage of CCTVs near the shed at Pattanagere and also at the pub. The police are trying to retrieve the deleted data.

Kannada film industry reacts to Darshan case

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

STARS of the Kannada film industry, including Upendra and Kichcha Sudeep, have finally opened up on the murder case of S Renukaswamy, allegedly involving superstar Darshan.

On Monday, actor-director and politician Upendra put out a post on social media platform X and said the whole nation is closely watching the high-profile case and are waiting for an impartial probe in the case.

Stating that the police used to record details of the interrogation in writing, Upendra batted for criminal justice reforms and said that with the technological advancement, everything can be video recorded and live streamed.

"In the case involving a public figure, the police should regularly make the video footage of the trial of the case public. The trial of a pubic figure should be made public with full transparency and this will put an end to the tampering of evidence, involvement of influential people and corruption. Doing so, Renukaswamy's family, people, media and Darshan's fans will not have any confusions and people will have more respect towards the police and the media" Upendra said.

Actor Sudeep, without taking the name of Darshan, on Sunday stated that the murder case has given a bad reputation to the Kannada film industry. He said that police and media are working hard to uncover the truth and said justice should prevail in this case.

Actress and politician Ramya (Divya Spandana) was the first to share her views on Darshan fan Renukaswamy's murder case, by stating that none is above the law and no one has the right to take the law into their own hands. She termed the actor as habitual offender and also said that Darshan's fan clout is overrated.

JOYOUS OCCASION

Thousands of Muslims offer Eid-ul-Adha prayers at the Eidgah Maidan in Chamarajpet, in Bengaluru, on Monday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Octogenarian says has bomb in baggage, not allowed to board flight

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

AN 81-year-old flyer from Bengaluru heading to Dubai, who told an airline executive that he has a bomb in his bag during routine checks on Monday, was not allowed to board his flight. A non-cognisable report (NCR) was filed against him by the airport police and investigations are on.

The octogenarian, C Krishnaraj – a resident of Anjanapura in Bengaluru, was to travel by the Emirates flights EK-565 to Dubai which was to take off at 10.35 am from Terminal 1.

A source said, "The incident took place around 8.10 am when checks were going on for departing passengers. At the Self-Baggage Drop counter, an airline executive asked him what was inside his bag. He got annoyed and sarcastically retorted that his baggage had a bomb." The comment is said to have caused anxiety among other flyers.

The executive, Anthira, immediately alerted her seniors and the Central Industrial Security Force personnel were called in. "He was detained and checks were carried out on his person and baggage. It was found to be a hoax," the source said.

"Krishnaraj was not allowed to board the flight and taken to the BIAL police station," another source said.

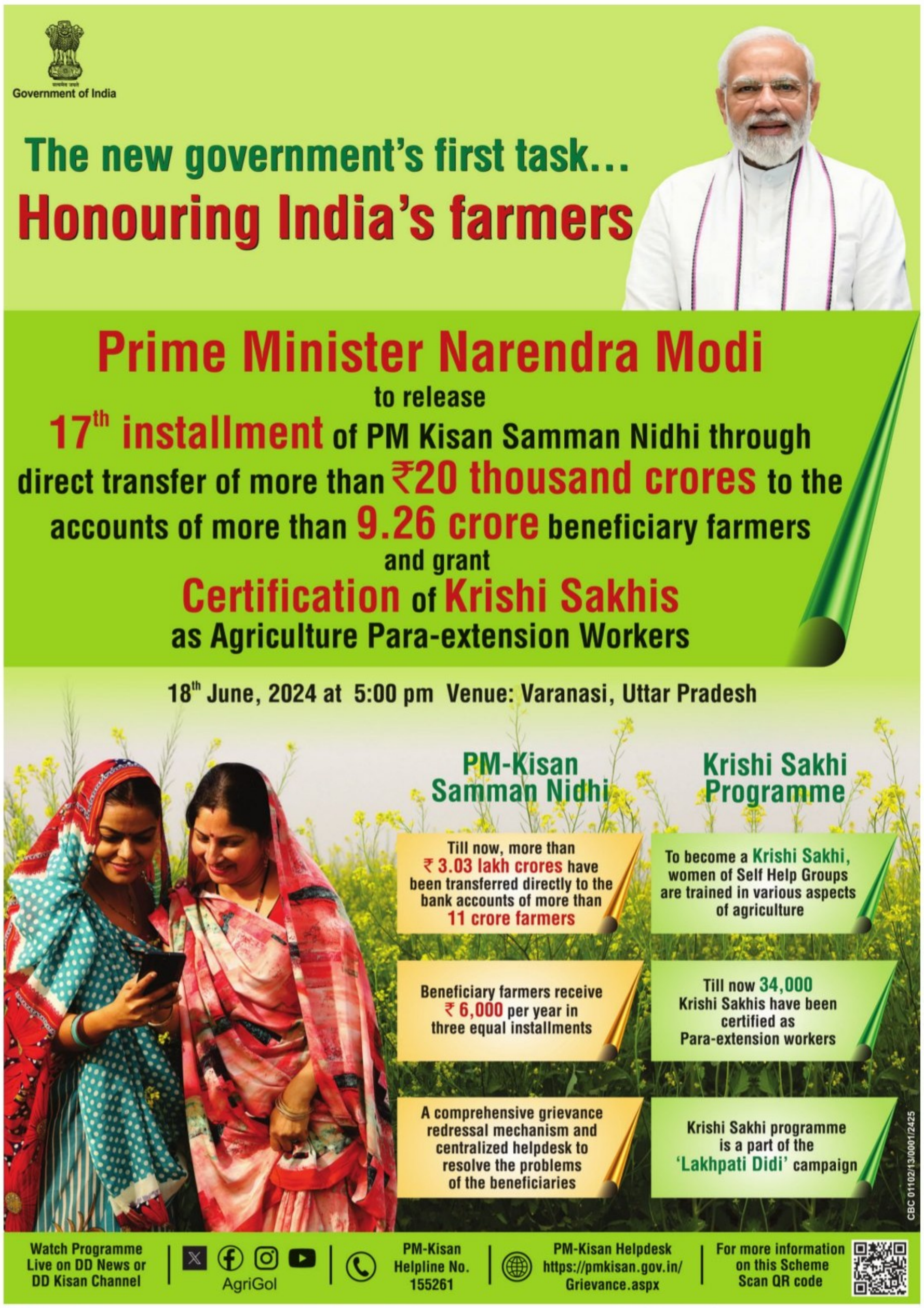
Airport Services Officer of Emirates Nirupama M filed a complaint at the police station. An NCR was filed under Sections 505 (1) (B) of IPC which deals with statements made with intent to cause fear or alarm to the public or an offence against public tranquility.

Last month, an Air India Express flyer to Pune was booked for claiming to have a bomb in his baggage during security checks. Since the beginning of this year, the airport has been repeatedly getting hoax bomb claims from passengers or anonymous threats. A threat to hijack an Indigo aircraft too was received last week.

IN THE HC

HC QUASHES RAPE CHARGES AGAINST MAN IN AFFAIR, BUT ALLOWS ASSAULT PROBE

BENGALURU: The Karnataka High Court quashed charges of rape and cheating against a 40-year-old man, but refused to dismiss charges of assault and intentional assault against a woman with whom he had a mutually consensual affair for over five years. "I am permitting investigation into the offences of assault under Sec 323 of the IPC and intentional insult under Sec 504 of the IPC, while obliterating the offences under Sec 376 and 417 of the IPC, on the score that 'any amount of consensus or a consensual relationship between the accused and the complainant will not become a licence to the accused to assault a woman'," said Justice M Nagaprasanna while partly allowing the petition filed by accused Sunil Patil. The petitioner and the complainant befriended each other when they were working together in a company at the International Tech Park Limited. The friendship turned into a physical relationship, lasting more than five years. The woman filed the complaint on July 11, 2022 at the Annapoorneshwari Nagar police station, alleging that the petitioner had indulged in sexual activities on the promise of marriage and had breached the promise of marriage. He also assaulted her when she allegedly demanded that he marry her. After the crime was registered, the petitioner approached the HC. Meanwhile, it was brought to the court's notice that the woman had registered another complaint against another person on charges of having a physical relationship with her. The court said it became unmistakably clear that it is verbatim similar and the complainant was sailing in two boats at the same time. Therefore, the offence alleged is under Sec 376 of the IPC are all false, the court observed.


Government of India
The new government's first task...
Honouring India's farmers
Prime Minister Narendra Modi
to release
17th installment of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi through
direct transfer of more than ₹20 thousand crores to the
accounts of more than 9.26 crore beneficiary farmers
and grant
Certification of Krishi Sakhis
as Agriculture Para-extension Workers
18th June, 2024 at 5:00 pm Venue: Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi
Till now, more than ₹ 3.03 lakh crores have been transferred directly to the bank accounts of more than 11 crore farmers
Beneficiary farmers receive ₹ 6,000 per year in three equal installments
A comprehensive grievance redressal mechanism and centralized helpdesk to resolve the problems of the beneficiaries
Krishi Sakhi Programme
To become a Krishi Sakhi, women of Self Help Groups are trained in various aspects of agriculture
Till now 34,000 Krishi Sakhis have been certified as Para-extension workers
Krishi Sakhi programme is a part of the 'Lakhpati Didi' campaign
CBC 01102/13/0001/2425
Watch Programme Live on DD News or DD Kisan Channel
AgriGoI
PM-Kisan Helpline No. 155261
PM-Kisan Helpdesk https://pmkisan.gov.in/Grievance.aspx
For more information on this Scheme Scan QR code

Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries H D Kumaraswamy is scheduled to take part in a virtual meeting of PM Kisan Sammelan, wherein Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with farmers at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra at University of Agriculture Sciences (UAS) in Dharwad on Tuesday, at 4 pm

● VIJAYENDRA TERMS HIKE IN FUEL PRICES A BETRAYAL OF PEOPLE'S TRUST ● Dr G SAYS HIKE IN VIEW OF DEVELOPMENT WORKS

BJP to protest till govt rolls back fuel price hike

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE BJP on Monday staged protests across Karnataka against the hike in petrol and diesel prices. Attacking the Congress State Government, the BJP has warned of an indefinite protest till the government rolls back the hike.

In Bengaluru, BJP leaders were detained by the police for a while. BJP leaders did a mock funeral of vehicles, symbolically opposing the fuel price hike. At some places, they even pushed two-wheelers for the same reason. Calling the hike anti-people, Karnataka BJP president, BY Vijayendra, said that the party will protest till the matter reaches its logical conclusion. He said that the Congress government's decision to hike fuel prices after misleading the public with promises of bhagyas (guarantees) and reducing the prices of essential commodities is unacceptable. "This move betrays the trust and emotions of the people, amounting to nothing less than fraud," Vijayendra added.

Vijayendra said that this oppressive action exacerbates the suffering of citizens who are already grappling with the severe drought and distress that have plagued Karnataka since the Congress came to power in the state.

"It is the height of the incompetence of this Congress government to justify this price hike by comparing it to other states. Do they even realise they have driven a once revenue-surplus state to the brink of bankruptcy with their sheer mismanagement? The ripple effect of this price hike will be devastating, affecting everyone, from farmers and labourers to poor and middle-class families. Even schoolchildren will not be spared, as they will face increased transportation costs," Vijayendra elaborated.

Vijayendra also pointed out that the Congress was hoping to win 20 seats in the state in the recent Lok Sabha elections, and the result has disappointed them. Congress MLAs themselves are raising voices against the guarantees, he added.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, R Ashoka, said that the State Government has set aside Rs 55,000 crore for the guarantee schemes.

"The State Government is looting our own money and giving us back. No development has happened in the last one year. In Bengaluru, potholes are not filled. The government is trying to divide Bengaluru," Ashoka said. He also said that the BJP will expose the government's financial mismanagement. "CM Siddaramaiah is planning to mortgage government properties," Ashoka added.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka and other BJP leaders drive a bullock cart and protest against the state government, for hiking petrol and diesel prices, in Bengaluru on Monday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

EXPRESS READ

'Don't open pre-schools in government schools'

BENGALURU: Karnataka Rajya Anganwadi Karyakarteyara Mahamandali has opposed the state government's move to open pre-schools in government schools across the state. It alleges that this move is aimed at closing down existing Anganwadi centres in Karnataka, and has accordingly threatened that if the government does not reconsider its decision, its members will protest. "Under former PM Indira Gandhi's Twenty-Point Programme, Karnataka got 65,900 Anganwadi centres, in which 64,816 Anganwadi workers, in total 1,29,632 people, are working. The state government has unscientifically opened pre-primary classes, due to which the existence of Anganwadi centres has become a question mark," said GR Shivashankar, president of the mahamandali on Monday. He said that despite opposition, the government is attempting to open pre-primary schools in all government schools. "Existing Anganwadi centres should be converted into child-care centres by providing all the necessary facilities," he said.

Jairam meets DCC leaders on poll results

CHIKKAMAGALURU: Congress Rajya Sabha member Jairam Ramesh on Monday met Chikkamagaluru district-level party leaders to discuss the party candidate's setback in the recent Lok Sabha elections from the Udupi-Chikkamagaluru constituency. He told the leaders to rectify the lapses and to organise the party at the grassroots level. District Congress Committee General Secretary Hiremagaluru Ramachandra told Ramesh that the Dalit community, which had backed Congress solidly in the 2023 Assembly election and has been a traditional vote base of the Grand Old Party, is pained and voted against the party in the general elections as it is under-represented in the state government. "I have not been able to answer the questions from the community and we will face local body elections soon. It will be easier to win elections in the future if I am appointed the president of CDA," he appealed. DCC president Dr K Anshumanth said the party is committed to providing social justice.

Right after stir, BJP ex-MLC suffers cardiac arrest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Shivamogga

FORMER MLC and senior BJP leader **MB Bhanuprakash** (68) succumbed to cardiac arrest, while staging a protest against the hike in tax on petrol and diesel prices by the state government, in the city on Monday. He collapsed at the protest spot and was rushed to a private hospital, where he was declared dead.

The BJP had organised the protest against the state government over the increase in tax on petrol and diesel prices. Bhanuprakash was among the participants in the protest. He marched in the rally from Shivappa Nayaka Circle to Gopi Circle and later delivered a speech at the protest meeting at Gopi Circle.

After the protest concluded, Bhanuprakash experienced chest pain and collapsed, and was immediately rushed to private hospital, where doctors confirmed his death.

The sudden demise of a senior BJP leader has left party workers and functionaries in shock. According to BJP sources, his body is being taken to his residence in Mattur village of Shivamogga taluk.

Bhanuprakash is survived by his wife and three sons. His last rites were performed in the evening.

BJP state president B Y Vijayendra, former CMs BS Yediyurappa, Basavaraj Bommai, and MP BY Raghavendra, among others, expressed condolences over the demise of Bhanuprakash.

Statement made today will not stay forever: HM

BENGALURU: Referring to the context of a statement made by CM Siddaramaiah, when he was Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, that the Congress would decrease fuel prices if voted to power, Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara suggested that one ought to look at the situations and contexts of statements. He added that "whatever statement one may make will not stay forever, one needs to deliver administration as per the situation". The video of Siddaramaiah, where he is reportedly seen stressing on decreasing petrol and diesel prices if Congress comes to power, has gone viral. When questioned about it, Parameshwara said administration has to be carried out as per the situation. He, however, said the state government has increased the price of fuel for revenue mobilisation. "Our price is still the lowest, when compared to other states," he said. Further, Parameshwara said that when BJP was in power, it had increased petrol and diesel prices 14 times. "Where were these BJP leaders then? They should think about it before staging protest. We need to take up development works, which is why we have the increase. It is not correct to say that prices of fuel were increased to fund guarantee schemes," he said. **ENS**

BJP workers and supporters raise slogans against the state government for hiking the price of petrol and diesel, in Bengaluru on Monday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

BJP politicising fuel price hike, says CM

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

SIDDARAMAIAH criticised Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries HD Kumaraswamy for giving a call to the people to revolt against the state government. He said, "Being a central minister, Kumaraswamy gave such a call (to revolt). Did he protest against BJP over price rise when JDS was not its ally?"

After the GST system came into force, the states could not mobilise adequate resources. They have to depend on the Centre for their share of tax money. The states now depend only on registration and stamp duty, vehicle tax, sales tax on petrol, diesel and liquor," he said.

Siddaramaiah alleged that the BJP is politicising the hike in fuel prices. "In April-May, I could not review the revenue target because MCC was in force for LS elections. I reviewed the same this month and we will certainly reach the target," he said.

The CM hit back at Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka for his statement that the state government has gone bankrupt and hiked the sales tax on petrol and diesel to fund the guarantee schemes. He said, "The government is spending Rs 60,000 crore on the guarantee schemes. The increase in sales tax on diesel and petrol will generate only Rs 3,000 crore. How can they (BJP leaders) say the government is bankrupt? Have we stopped the salaries of employees or stopped grants to the schemes announced in the budget?"

'No bus fare hike'

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said that his government will not hike KSRTC and BMTC bus fares. "We have no plans to hike the bus fares now," he added.

BJP condemns assault on TNIE reporter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

BJP leaders condemned the assault on a reporter from *The New Indian Express* by four miscreants on court premises on Saturday. The Karnataka Union for Working Journalists (KUWJ) too condemned the attack on 23-year-old Rakshith Gowda.

Leader of Opposition R Ashoka said the assault on media personnel at the city court is highly deplorable. He urged Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara to take the incident seriously and arrest the miscreants.

"The media is the fourth pillar of democracy and the government must not tolerate any attempt to muzzle freedom of the press," he said.

Senior BJP leader and MLA Suresh Kumar too expressed displeasure over the incident and shared it in his social media account.

KUWJ posted on its official 'X' account, "The New Indian Express Reporter Rakshith Gowda, who was outside the courtroom where Actor Darshan was produced, has been beaten up by 4 unidentified people. The reason is simple, He is a MEDIA PERSON! KUWJ condemns this incident."

Yediyurappa appears before CID in POCSO case, denies allegations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FORMER chief minister and senior BJP leader BS Yediyurappa, who is an accused in a Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) case, appeared before the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for inquiry on Monday.

The BJP leader arrived at the CID office in the morning, where he was questioned for about three hours by investigators, after which he left the premises. Sources said the former CM denied the allegations of molesting the 17-year-old victim.

Yediyurappa had earlier appeared before the CID sleuths, who had collected his voice samples and WhatsApp messages and sent them to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) for examination.

Former CM BS Yediyurappa arrives at the CID office in Bengaluru on Monday

The 81-year-old BJP strongman was directed by the Karnataka High Court to appear for the probe. It may be recalled that the senior BJP leader was summoned by the CID on June 12, but he had sought time till June 17. A non-bailable warrant was obtained from a city court by the CID on Thursday. The HC, on Friday, had restrained his arrest, following an application for anticipatory bail.

The Sadashivanagar police, who had registered the case on March 14, had later transferred it to the CID for further probe on the directions of the state police chief. The complaint was filed by the mother of a 17-year-old girl. The complainant alleged that the former CM had sexually assaulted the girl at his residence in Dollars Colony on February 2, when both of them went there to seek his help. The complainant died at a private hospital in Hulimavu on May 26 due to health issues.

With good show in LS election, BJP all set to revamp district units

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

NOW that the Lok Sabha elections are over and BJP and its alliance partner JDS have done well with 17 and two seats respectively, dissidence with the saffron party could die down, party sources said.

A key functionary, who was fanning the flames of dissidence, is keeping away for obvious reasons. With this, the long-expected revamp of the overall party organisation at the district and mandal levels could be taken up soon, the sources said. The party is in the process of trying to get the feedback for its loss in eight Lok Sabha seats, and will form a committee, which is expected to meet respective district units, the sources said.

After these meetings, party state president BY Vijayendra and team could revamp the district units. Many of these units have been functioning with same officer-bearers since Vijayendra took over in November, though some district presidents were changed. An office-bearer of a district unit in South Karnataka was heard complaining that they are being continued though their term is over and they are not working as spiritedly as they should be.

BJP former state president Nalin Kumar Kateel said, "When I took over as president, the district units were all revamped. Vijayendra will take it up at his discretion."

BJP MLC Ravi Kumar said, "The office-bearers in many districts are due for change and Vijayendra will decide after he calls for meetings."

Sources said office-bearers at the district and mandal levels are likely to be replaced with new faces. BJP needs to do well in the upcoming zilla and taluk panchayat and BBMP elections and an effective team of office-bearers is important, they added.

One former BJP state unit functionary said, "In many places the units did not perform well and BJP could not hold on to nine seats. The sooner the issue is resolved, the better it is."

HDK bolstering base of Vokkaligas, other groups to secure JDS future

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI
@ Bengaluru

UNION Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries HD Kumaraswamy is juggling between two responsibilities of reorganising, JDS -- of which he is the state president, by seeking the support of the Vokkaliga community and taking different communities into confidence to help the regional party in the future.

He and his son Nikhil Kumaraswamy, who is likely to take over the state party chief's position, visited Kunchatiga-Vokkaliga religious head Sri Nanjavadhuta Swami at Pattanayakanahalli in Sira taluk and Lingayat seer Sri Siddalinga Swamiji at Siddaganga Mutt in Tumakuru on Monday.

During the visit, he promised Kunchatiga-Vokkaligas the OBC tag in the Centre's list of castes, and the Scheduled Tribe recognition for Kadugollas. "I will convince Prime Minister Narendra Modi to do the reclassification," he asserted.

On Sunday, Kumaraswamy met Vokkaliga seer of the Adichunchanagiri Mutt, Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swami. Vokkaligas, including members of the subsect Kunchatiga Vokkaligas, are said to have backed JDS and also its alliance partner BJP in the recent Lok Sabha elections. A combination of Vokkaligas, Lingayats and, to some extent, Kadugollas had worked in favour of the BJP-JDS alliance in the Old Mysuru region, including Mandya, Kolar, Chitradurga, Tumakuru and Bengaluru Rural.

Union Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries HD Kumaraswamy being felicitated by JDS workers in Tumakuru on Monday | EXPRESS

Now, Kumaraswamy wants to keep up the momentum to make JDS a force to reckon with, keeping in view future elections, political analysts said. "JDS had lost the confidence of Veerashaiva-Lingayats when Kumaraswamy, in 2007, refused to honour the alliance agreement with BJP and did not transfer power to BS Yediyurappa. A section of Vokkaligas too had distanced itself from the party as DK Shivakumar had emerged as an alternative leader of the community. Now, Kumaraswamy is trying to regain the trust of the two numerically strong communities," they observed.

Talking to reporters at Tumakuru, Kumaraswamy rubbished opposition Congress' suspicion that electronic voting machines had been rigged in the recent Lok Sabha elections and called the allegations baseless. "Did Congress win 136 seats in the last Assembly polls by hacking EVMs," he asked.

On increasing the prices of fuel when he was chief minister, which was pointed out by incumbent CM Siddaramaiah, he said, "I had tried to mobilise Rs 25,000 crore to waive off farm loans, but Siddaramaiah did not let me do it." Kumaraswamy said he is focusing on types of industries that can be invited to set up plants in Karnataka. "There was a long-standing demand that jobs should be given to locals which will be taken care of by convincing industrialists," he said.

AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K Palaniswami on Monday condemned the remarks of Union MoS Jal Shakti V Somanna that talks should be held on Mekedatu issue even though a case is pending before the Supreme Court. He described Somanna's appointment, a Karnataka BJP MP, as a 'big betrayal' of the NDA government to Tamil Nadu

Cannot give legal sanctity to live-in relationships if ties cut: HC

R SIVAKUMAR @ Chennai

HOLDING that a live-in relationship entered into by a man — already married with five children — with another woman cannot get the status of a legal marriage in the absence of formalisation of the relationship through marriage as per the law, the Madras High Court ruled that such a man cannot claim rights over the property that stands on the woman's name following a settlement deed.

The ruling was given by Justice R M T Teekaa Raman recently on an appeal filed by P Jayachandran from Nagavedu, Ranipet, challenging the judgment and decree of a trial court. The judge noted, "Relationship of marriage continues, notwithstanding the fact that there are differences of opinions, marital unrest etc., even if they are not sharing a household, being based on law. But a live-in-relationship is purely an arrangement between the parties, unlike a legal marriage. Once a party to the live-in relationship determines that he/she does not wish to live in such a relationship, it comes to an end."

The appellant, Jayachandran, a school teacher, was married to Stella and had five children. He entered into a live-in relationship with Margarette Arulmozhi, who was working as the headmistress of a panchayat union middle school. He effected a settlement deed in the name of Arulmozhi in 2010, transferring a low income group plot, which stood in his name, to her as a mark of love and affection. However, he 'unilaterally' cancelled the settlement deed in 2013 after she passed away.

Arulmozhi's father A Yesurathinam filed a plaint in 2013 in the Second Additional Sessions Court, Ranipet, seeking declaration of title of the property to him in his capacity as the sole legal heir of the deceased. The court, in 2016, ordered in favour of Yesurathinam, after finding that the live-in relationship between Jayachandran and Arulmozhi was not "converted into a legitimate marriage" because they had not formalised their relationship as per law and also Jayachandran had not divorced Stella.

Aggrieved over the order, Jayachandran filed an appeal in the HC, contending that the trial court had not taken into consideration the facts, including that Arulmozhi had named him as the nominee for her special provident fund cum gratuity, and that he was receiving the family pension after her death. These facts lead to him being recognised by the authorities of the school education department as her husband, he contended.

Justice Teekaa Raman negated the claims saying that the unilateral cancellation of the settlement deed is "impermissible" in law and nomination in service records is only for the purpose of receiving terminal benefits; such a person cannot hold that he alone is the legal heir.

He also negated the appellant's claim that he had divorced Stella through 'customary divorce'. The court said, under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, such a plea of customary divorce is not permitted and a divorce between Christians has to be effected on certain grounds described under Section 10 of the Indian Divorce Act.

'DAMAGE MASSIVE': NAIDU TAKES STOCK OF POLAVARAM PROJECT

Says not sure when project can be completed

S GURU SRIKANTH
@ Polavaram (Eluru district)

THE Polavaram project is a case study on how wilful and ignorant decisions can adversely impact the larger interests of a state, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said following his field visit to the irrigation project site on Monday. This is Naidu's first visit to the Polavaram project after becoming the CM.

Expressing dismay over the devastation caused to the Polavaram project, Naidu said given the extent of damage, it is uncertain as to how much time and money would have to be spent to complete the project.

Deeming former CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy unfit of being in politics, the 74-year-old said, "It is saddening to see so much effort and so much of taxpayers money wasted just because of an ignorant and willful decision taken by the previous government."

The previous YSRC regime went ahead with changing executing agencies even after being advised against such a move by the Central Water Commission and Ministry of Jal Shakti, Naidu added. "Had the earlier executing agencies been continued, the project would have been completed by 2020. These agencies could have also been held responsible for any lapses that might have emerged," Naidu elaborated.

Naidu remarked that changing agencies and transferring experienced officials during the execution of crucial works pertaining to the upper cofferdam created a gap in the project, which proved fatal during the floods in 2019 and 2020.

"The gap in the upper cofferdam was to be filled before the flood season. However, due to change in agencies and officials, no work was done. In the subsequent floods, about 35% of the diaphragm wall was badly damaged at four different places. Even stability of the upper cofferdam is doubtful given the leakages observed," the Chief Minister further said.

Clarifying that his visit to the Polavaram Project was only to take a preliminary stock of the situation, Naidu said he is not going into the nitty-gritty or technicalities of the project.

Slamming the Jagan government for making a mess of the Polavaram project, he said it will take serious effort to set things right.

Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu inspects Polavaram project works for the first time after he assumed charge as chief minister on Monday | PRASANT MADUGULA

EXPRESS READ

Superstition: Man kills baby grandson

Ariyalur (Tamil Nadu): Veeramuthu, 58, was arrested on Monday near Jayankondam for the murder of his month-old grandson on Friday. The police said he had become fearful that the birth of the child in the Tamil month of *Chithirai* would bring bad luck to the family. According to the police, the infant's parents — Balamurugan (29) and Sangeetha (21) — married in 2023. Sangeetha became pregnant and moved to her parents' home. On May 7 she gave birth to a boy. On June 14, Sangeetha realised the infant was missing. The baby was found wrapped in a cloth and drowned inside a water drum in the house. "During inquiry, it was found that Veeramuthu had taken loans for his daughter's wedding," the police said. Also, some villagers had also said that the child's zodiac sign posed a danger to Veeramuthu. Initially he had planned to abandon the baby somewhere far away but finally decided to drown him, police noted.

The front of the car involved in the accident

Hit by speeding car, tiger sustains severe injuries

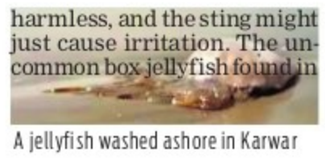
Nellore: A tiger reportedly sustained severe injuries to its leg after it was struck by a speeding car on the Nellore-Mumbai national highway near Kadirinaidupalle village in Marripadu mandal, Nellore district on Monday. The incident occurred when the tiger attempted to cross the highway in the Kadirinaidupalle forest area. The impact was so forceful that the car driver, identified as Srinivasulu, dragged the wild animal for almost half a kilometre before managing to halt the vehicle. Eyewitnesses said the tiger suffered noticeable injuries to its leg, yet it swiftly retreated back into the forest after the accident. While the front of the car was significantly damaged in the collision, all the five occupants, natives of Badvel, were unhurt. Upon receiving reports, forest officials promptly arrived at the scene to conduct an investigation. They launched an extensive operation in the surrounding forest areas to locate the animal and assess its condition following the collision.

Fisherman finds jellyfish in net, dies after being stung

SUBHASH CHANDRA NS
@ Devbagh (Uttara Kannada)

A fisherman from Devbagh lost his life when he was stung by a jellyfish. Krishna Kirloskar, a fisherman from Narasimhawada, had ventured into the sea at Devbagh near Karwar. After fishing, when he started gathering his net, he found a jellyfish that was caught in the net.

According to his friends and relatives, Krishna removed the jellyfish from the net and threw it back into the sea. Soon after, he developed severe irritation on the skin and in the eyes. He was rushed to the Karwar Institute of Medical Sciences. According to sources, Krishna was brought in a critical condition and put on a ventilator, but still died. This incident has surprised marine biologists. "It is hard to explain what happened, and which jellyfish stung him, because the jellyfish found here are quite harmless, and the sting might just cause irritation. The uncommon box jellyfish found in tropical waters around Cape Town, Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, and India and Japan is the deadliest. The incident at Devbagh is probably the first one in the region," Prof Shivakumar Haragi, Department of Marine Biology, Karnatak University, Dharwad, said.



A jellyfish washed ashore in Karwar

According to US' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, "Box jellyfish, named for their body shape, have tentacles covered in biological booby traps known as 'nematocysts'- tiny darts loaded with poison. People and animals unfortunate enough to be injected with this poison may experience paralysis, cardiac arrest, and even death, all within a few minutes of being stung."

Man kills girl for not buying him gutka, held

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @Koppal

THE police have arrested 52-year-old Siddalingaiah Naikal for allegedly killing a seven-year-old girl who refused to buy gutka for him at Kinnal village in Koppal. She was murdered on April 19 and her body was found two days later. The police arrested Naikal on Sunday.

On April 19, Siddalingaiah called his neighbour's daughter and asked her to bring gutka. Siddalingaiah had some injuries on his leg after quarrelling with his brothers and he was in an inebriated state when he asked the kid to get him gutka.

The kid brought him gutka once, after some hours, Siddalingaiah again called and asked her to bring gutka again.

As many residents in that area had gone for a wedding and the kid was alone at her home.

She refused to bring gutka again and a drunk Siddalingaiah got angry and allegedly hit her with a stick on her head. She died on the spot. The girl's father lodged a complaint to the police on April 20. Her body was found by the police on April 21.

He had put her body in a fertiliser bag and kept it in an old and empty house.

'TRIBALS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE MAINSTREAM'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Local officials are indifferent to the needs of the tribal people due to political differences," he alleged. When they approached the local MLA recently, he ordered the officials to extend the scheme to the settlement. "But a few panchayat officials backed by leaders of the opposition party are trying to stop the scheme from reaching beneficiaries in the settlement," he alleged. Meanwhile, stressing the need for the development of the settlement, leader of Jenu Kurubas JK Ramu demanded that the tribal people be brought to the mainstream. Most of the tribal people in the district are living in pitiable conditions. "Action should be taken against the errant panchayat officials. Steps should be taken to develop the settlement at the earliest," he said. Tribal leaders Krishna, Shivanna and Parvathi said they will launch a protest if their demands are not met at the earliest.

BIG BOOST

IN-SPACe launches Pre-Incubation Entrepreneurship for youngsters

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) has launched the Pre-Incubation Entrepreneurship (PIE) Development Programme to support and nurture early-stage space startups. The programme aims to cultivate and empower the next generation of space tech innovators, providing them with the tools and guidance necessary to transform their space ambitions.

The 21-month programme will guide aspiring entrepreneurs through a comprehensive journey divided into different phases such as ideation, innovation, and prototype development. The programme will ensure that budding entrepreneurs receive structured support at each critical stage of development. PIE aims to target students in technical courses or those with a strong interest in space technology, expected to graduate in 2024, or pursuing Master's or Doctorate programmes and early-stage start-ups focusing on space technologies and aiming to develop entrepreneurial ventures.

Pawan Goenka, Chairman, IN-SPACe, said, "India's space sector is poised for exponential growth, and young entrepreneurs are crucial to driving this expansion. PIE will provide them with a launch pad, equipping them not only with technical expertise but with the business acumen needed to navigate the complexities of space industry."

Applicants should not have received any grants, funding, or monetary support from private or government schemes and all submissions must be original work to qualify. Start-ups registered with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade on or after July 1, 2022, are classified as early-stage start-ups. For more details, visit *www.inspace.gov.in*

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that, my Client **Sri. N.C VENKATARAMANAPPA.**, S/o. Venkatashamappa, Residing at No.9,II A Cross, S.K. Garden, Benson Town, BANGALORE -560 046.Has lost the original Rectification Deeddated19.11.2003with vide Document No:30264-2003-04, stored in C.D No:154 Registered at the office of Snr. Sub-Registrar, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore pertaining to the below mentioned Schedule Property. The said document is not in the possession of my client and the same has been intimated to the Jurisdictional Police. Whoever is in possession of the same hereby requested to hand over it to the below mentioned address. If anyone deals with such persons on the Schedule Property shall be doing so at his/her own risk and consequences and the same shall not be binding on my Client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing House List Katha No.864, House on Site No:1A, situated at Cholanayakanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 30 feetAND BOUNDED ON: **East By:** Property No.1/B, **West By:** Property No.1 **North By:** Road, **South By:** Remaining Private Property

Sri. B.B. SUDHIR., Advocate
Bangalore-560038. Mob:98450 22593

PUBLIC NOTICE

Publics are hereby informed that my client **SRI. ATTHUR SIVA PRASAD** and others, are intending to purchase a property detailed in the schedule below (hereinafter referred as "Schedule properties) from its present owner SRI . C. PRASAD, S/o Sri C K Muniswamy Reddy, R/at, C3-252, BDA INDP Flats, 3rd Main, Domlur 2nd Stage, Bangalore – 560071 on the basis of the representation made by the owner that he is the absolute owner of schedule properties, with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person asserting any right, title, claim, tenancy, mortgage, charge, lien or other interest whatsoever in respect of the schedule property or parcel/s forming part of the same, or having any objection/s of any manner whatsoever to the above proposed transaction, are hereby called upon to submit their objections in writing together with documentary proof of such claim, so as to reach us at the address given below within **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of publication of notice. If no such objections are received, it would be deemed that owner, of schedule properties have a clear and marketable title to the schedule properties and that none else have any right, title or interest whatsoever in respect of the schedule properties or any parcel forming part of the same and my clients would be at liberty to proceed to enter into and complete the transaction of sale in respect of the schedule properties.

SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the Dry land bearing Sy. No. 34/2 measuring 1 acre 14 guntas along with Kharab measuring 0-5 guntas situated at S. Vaddahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Bengaluru rural district, Hoskote Taluk, bounded on: **East by:** Remaining portion of Sy No: 34/3 belonging to C. Prasad, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Property bearing Sy No.31/1A belonging to C Prasad, **South by:** Road and Giddenahalli Boundary

SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the agricultural land bearing Old Sy.No.34/1, New Sy No 34/3 measuring 1 acre 35 gutnas and karab land of 0-04.08 Guntas situated at S. Vaddahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hosakote Taluk Bangalore Rural District bounded on: **East by:** Land bearing Sy No: 34/1 belonging to Nagesh, **West by:** Land bearing Sy No.34/2 belonging to C Prasad, **North by:** Land bearing Sy No.31/1B, **South by:** Village boundary of Giddanahalli.

SCHEDULE "C" PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the land bearing Sy no.31/1A, measuring 1 acre 22 guntas situated at S.Vaddahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hoskote Taluk Bnagalore Rural District bounded on: **East by:** Land bearing Sy No. 31/1B, **West by:** Land Belonging to Chinnappa Chari, Nagraj and Sridhar, **North by:** Land Belonging to Yerappa, **South by:** land bearing Sy No.34/2 belonging to C Prasad

V.N. KUMAR, Advocate
No.1, "Green Field", Immadihally, White Field, Bangalore-66. Mob.No.9845462353

Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS EQUITAS FINANCE LTD)
Registered Office : No.769, Spencer Plaza, 4th Floor, Phase-II, Anna Salai, Chennai - 600002.

POSSESSION NOTICE (U/s. Rule 8 (1) - for immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of M/s. Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest [Act, 2002 (54 of 2002)] and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with [Rule 3] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice calling upon the below mentioned Borrowers to repay thetotal outstanding amount mentioned in the notice being within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. Since the below mentioned Borrowers having failed to repay the below stated amount within the stipulated time, notice is hereby given to the below mentioned borrowers andthe public in general that, the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security interest Enforcement Rules, 2002. The Borrowers in particularand the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the schedule mentioned properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of M/s. Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited and further interest and other charges thereon." The Borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub–section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets."

SR NO	Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Symbolic possession taken date
1	BRANCH - Hsr Layout Loan No - SEHRLYT0418891 BORROWER - MR. SYED MUSHTAQ AHMED Co-Borrower - SALMA J	All that Peace And Parcel of the immovable property bearing No. 10, old Khatha No. 365/80, property No.57, New BBMP Khatha No. 1291/365/10, Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet in totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet, situated at Kothanuru Village, K.R. Puram Hubli, presently comes under jurisdiction of BBMP ward No.25, Bangalore East Taluk. North by: Site Bearing No. 11, South by: Site Bearing No. 9, East by: Site Bearing No. 3, West by: Road, Measurement: Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet in totally measuring 1200 Sq. feet. Situated at within the Sub-Registration District of K.R.Puram and Registration District of Bangalore.	07-03-2024 & 1571645	14-06-2024

Date - 18.06.2024, Place - Bangalore **Authorized officer , Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd**

PIRAMAL CAPITAL & HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
CIN : L65910MH1984PLC032639
Registered Office: Unit No.-601,6th Floor, Piramal Amiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp. Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kurla (West), Mumbai - 400070
Branch Address : Dhiraj Baug, Building "A" Ground & 1st Floor, Beside Axis Bank, Opp. Monalisa Building, Agra Road, Hari Niwas Circle, Naupada, Thane (West) – 400 602.

DEMAND NOTICE

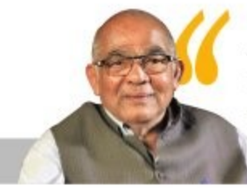
Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. The undersigned is the Authorised Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited (PCHFL) under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said Act). In exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Authorised Officer has issued Demand Notices under Section 13(2) of the said Act, calling upon the following Borrower(s) (the "said Borrower(s)"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice(s) issued to them that are also given below. In connection with above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) to pay to PCHFL, within 60 days from the publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notice(s), from the date(s) mentioned below till the date of payment and/or realization, payable under the loan agreement read with other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following assets have been mortgaged to PCHFL by the said Borrower(s) respectively.

Name of the Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount with NPA date	Description of secured asset (immovable property)
(LC No. 00300007435 of Kochi Branch) Deepthi Devi K G (Borrower) Gangadharan K V (Co Borrower 1)	27-05-2024 ₹ 1640817/-(₹ Sixteen lakh Forty Thousand Eight Hundred Seventeen Only) NPA (30-09-2020)	Sy No: 220/11/1 Paravur Taluk Paravur Village Cochin Ernakulam Kerala :- 682320
(LC No. 11600000540 of Kurnool Branch) Thejeshwar Reddy Gunthakanti (Borrower) Venkata Rameshwar Reddy Gunthakanti (Co Borrower 1)	27-05-2024 ₹ 1325467/-(₹ Thirteen lakh Twenty Five Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Seven Only) NPA (10-05-2024)	Flat No 501, D No 43-86-501 5th Floor, Shantha Residency N R Peta Kurnool Kurnool Andhra Pradesh :- 518002
(LC No. 21400043110 of Bengaluru - Jayanagar -1 Branch) Vignesh N (Borrower) G Neelakantan (Co Borrower 1)	27-05-2024 ₹ 3807670/-(₹ Thirty Eight lakh Seven Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Only) NPA (10-05-2024)	Site No 11, Katha No 340, Property No 93/1, Situated Horamavu (v) K R Puram Hobli Bangalore East Bangalore Bengaluru Karnataka :- 560043
(LC No. 24600000576 of Chandapura Branch) Savithena Phani Chandra (Borrower) Devi Priya Naidu Mutyala (Co Borrower 1)	27-05-2024 ₹ 1173446/-(₹ Eleven lakh Seventy Three Thousand Four Hundred Forty Six Only) NPA (10-05-2024)	Flat No F 807, F Block, 8th Floor, Aryan Gold Arena, Bidaraguppe Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk Banglore Bengaluru Karnataka :- 562125
(LC No. 12700003369 of Bengaluru S V Koramangala Branch) Ponsingh Paul Pandian (Borrower) R Nalinadevi (Co Borrower 1)	27-05-2024 ₹ 3997937/-(₹ Thirty Nine lakh Ninety Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Seven Only) NPA (10-05-2024)	Villa No 136 Manar Pure Earth, Sarjapur Village Sarjapura Hobli Anekal Taluk Bangalore Bengaluru Karnataka :- 562125
(LC No. 12700003404 of Bengaluru S V Koramangala Branch) Ponsingh Paul Pandian (Borrower) R Nalinadevi (Co Borrower 1)	27-05-2024 ₹ 3997937/-(₹ Thirty Nine lakh Ninety Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Seven Only) NPA (10-05-2024)	Villa No 133 Manar Pure Earth, Sarjapur Village Sarjapura Hobli Bangalore Bengaluru Karnataka :- 562125
(LC No. PHHLBNG07000983 of Bangalore Branch) Hari Shankar Boppana (Borrower) NIMMAGADDA POOJITHA (Co Borrower 1)	28-05-2024 ₹ 3045010/-(₹ Thirty lakh Forty Five Thousand Ten Only) NPA (05-05-2024)	Flat No. V304 3Rd Floor Survey No. 15(Ia-004), 77/1 (154)... 80(07.54) Urbana Avenue Kannamangala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Divanahalli Taluk Banglore 562110
(LC No. HLSA0000BDB9 of Bangalore Branch) Roopa V (Borrower) RAGHU KADUMATA GOWTHAM (Co Borrower 1)	28-05-2024 ₹ 7992834/-(₹ Seventy Nine lakh Ninety Two Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty Four Only) NPA (05-05-2024)	Western Portion Site No. 35 A, & Northen Portion Of Site No.1, Khata No. 1072/59/35A, Formed In Sy No.59 & 36 Karivobanahalli Village Yeshwanthpura Hobli Banglore 560058
(LC No. HLSA00036238 of Bengaluru - Vasanth Nagar Branch) Ramesh V (Borrower) Revathi V R (Co Borrower 1)	28-05-2024 ₹ 1524682/-(₹ Fifteen lakh Twenty Four Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Two Only) NPA (05-05-2024)	Khata No. 2965, Assesmement No 2960, Bhavarilalpet, Kolar Karnataka 563122
(LC No. HLSA00036238TU of Bengaluru - Vasanth Nagar Branch) Ramesh V (Borrower) Revathi V R (Co Borrower 1)	28-05-2024 ₹ 120593/-(₹ One lakh Twenty Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Three Only) NPA (05-05-2024)	Khata No. 2965, Assesmement No 2960, Bhavarilalpet, Kolar Karnataka 563122
(LC No. HLSA0000E090TU of Bangalore Branch) Varikuti Reddy (Borrower) Varikuti Rajeswari (Co Borrower 1)	28-05-2024 ₹ 1024659/-(₹ Ten lakh Twenty Four Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Nine Only) NPA (05-05-2024)	H. No.8 1 Katha No.31 And 34, Near Siva Sai Catring, Naganathapura, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560110
(LC No. HLSA0000E090 of Bangalore Branch) Varikuti Reddy (Borrower) Varikuti Rajeswari (Co Borrower 1)	28-05-2024 ₹ 1693198/-(₹ Sixteen lakh Ninety Three Thousand One Hundred Ninety Eight Only) NPA (05-05-2024)	H. No.8 1 Katha No.31 And 34, Near Siva Sai Catring, Naganathapura, Bangalore, Karnataka- 560110
(LC No. HLSA000637BB of Bengaluru - Jayanagar Branch) Shyla Shree K (Borrower) Lokanath R (Co Borrower 1)	28-05-2024 ₹ 5818127/-(₹ Fifty Eight lakh Eighteen Thousand One Hundred Twenty Seven Only) NPA (05-05-2024)	Site Bearing No.96, Assessment No.106/2, BBMP Ward No.72, Herohalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hubli, Bangalore, Karnataka-560091.

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to PCHFL as aforesaid, PCHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of PCHFL. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the said Act or Rules made there under, shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date : 18.06.2024 **Sd/- (Authorised Officer)**
Place : KARNATAKA **Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited**

EDITORIAL



"At the end of the day, a key to realising reform is to make the powerful feel the pain of status quo" — YV Reddy

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.
— Ramnath Goenka

KHALISTAN BACK IN FOCUS WITH NIJJAR ANNIV, NIKHIL EXTRADITION

THE picture of a frosty handshake Prime Minister Narendra Modi had with his Canadian counterpart Justin Trudeau on the sidelines of the recent G7 summit captured the tense bilateral relations ever since Khalistani radical Hardeep Singh Nijjar was bumped off in Canada on June 18 last year. Modi's bland description on his official X account, "Met Canadian PM @JustinTrudeau at the G7 Summit," had the chill of the Arctic built into it. It garnered about 5 million views. At the other end of the spectrum was Modi's "Long live India-Italy friendship!" response to an exceptionally glowing selfie along with the host and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Maloni. Her accompanying audio message, "Hello from the Melodi team," made eyes pop and drew 19 million views.

Trudeau later said both sides agreed to work together to deal with important issues, without elaboration. With the Nijjar death anniversary on Tuesday, more pro-Khalistani noises can be expected in Canada. India repeatedly chastised Canada, saying glorifying violence cannot be part of any civilised society, adding intimidation by radical elements in the name of freedom of expression is unacceptable in a democracy. But Trudeau's liberal lexicon apparently lets vote-bank politics make contortions to define democracy differently. Canada claims to have cracked Nijjar's murder by arresting a few young people. The outcome of the case is awaited. In a related development, Indian national Nikhil Gupta, accused in a murder-for-hire plot against Khalistani separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun has been extradited from the Czech Republic to the US. Prosecutors allege Gupta hired a hitman to kill Pannun and his handler was an Indian government official. The extradition came right before the ongoing visit of US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan to Delhi for talks on emerging technologies.

The extradition and the Nijjar anniversary have brought Khalistani separatism back on the front burner. It has pockets of support in Punjab—radical leader Amritpal Singh recently wrested the Khadoor Sahib Lok Sabha seat from his Assam jail with a margin of 1.97 lakh votes. Sarabjeet Singh Khalsa, son of former PM Indira Gandhi's assassin Beant Singh, won the Faridkot seat as an independent. These are worrying signs. The Pannun case trial will be keenly watched, as it will test the resilience of India's foreign policy under the new government.

PROTECT JOURNALISTS TO BOOST DEMOCRACY

THE attack by four unidentified non-state actors on a young reporter from *The New Indian Express* at an Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's court in Bengaluru on Saturday is a deplorable act that needs to be condemned in the harshest possible manner. The *TNIE* reporter was covering murder-accused Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa being produced before court. The attackers questioned the reporter about what he was doing at the court complex. They beat him up on being informed that he was from the media. It demonstrates the impunity with which the attack was launched.

This is not an isolated case. It must be viewed as part of a string of attacks on media persons and the condition of press freedom across India. According to the India Freedom of Expression Initiative's annual press freedom report, in 2023, five journalists were killed and 226 injured. These were carried out across India by state agencies, non-state political actors and criminals. It's not surprising the World Press Freedom Index—published by Reporters Without Borders as an annual ranking based on the level of journalistic freedom on the parameters of political context, legal framework, economic context, sociocultural context and safety—has positioned India at 159 among 180 nations in 2024; it's a fall from 2022's rank of 150.

In many cases, the extent of injuries sustained—or death—is taken into consideration to decide their seriousness. The implications are far more severe than that. Any such attack needs to be viewed as an obstruction to the smooth functioning of Indian democracy, something most Indians are proud of. Press freedom must be viewed and accepted as a fundamental democratic principle. It allows journalists and media organisations to operate without censorship or interference from state or non-state actors. It is a core component of the freedom of expression.

Although not exclusively mentioned in the Constitution, press freedom comes directly under the rights granted by Article 19(1)(a) for freedom of expression and speech. It implies encouraging independent journalism to promote democracy by allowing journalists to freely report and voice their opinions on matters reported from the ground. It is time the Union government brought in laws to protect journalists to help them boost press freedom, without which democracy itself holds no meaning.

QUICK TAKE

A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION

THE NCERT director's assertion that minimising the mention of riots that affected modern India would reduce hatred misses the woods for the trees. Clashes that have had a lasting impact on Indian history—of which there have been many, like in any large, heterogeneous country—should not be kept altogether from schoolchildren. They serve as cautionary tales on what not to repeat. Students taken to the Partition Museum in Delhi come away learning about the event's tragic dimensions. Berlin's Holocaust Memorial is designed to unnerve visitors. On this, we would do well to ponder over philosopher George Santayana's words, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

The fight against loneliness leads one to make friends. As society gets more hooked to digital mediums, we need to take interest in others to stay connected

THE INTRUSIVE INDIAN'S PASSION TO CONNECT

HARISH BIJOOR
Brand Guru & Founder, Harish Bijoor Consults

SOURAV ROY

IN the beginning, we were all alone. And then we came together. First in sets of two. Some committed, some did not. Some committed for a while and moved on when the time came. The bound unit of two became more as we had children. And that became the family. Then we made friends. And we lived close to the ones we liked. We went out together, ate together, and celebrated and mourned together as well. And then came marriage as an institution. Those who committed themselves to it bound themselves to the norms of fidelity and more. Society institutionalised it with rituals of every kind. Even punishments for those who strayed.

And then the governments of the land took over the task of governing society, listing the do's and don'ts, and even creating detailed laws to follow. In came the rule of law. Even as all this happened, families grew, as did societies. Those who lived in close-knit societies gave themselves names that identified themselves as being more homogenous among the heterogeneous. Societies became regions and regions became states. And then the states got together and made the country. The smallest unit of society is the individual and the largest is all of mankind then. Add to it animal-kind and plant-kind as well, if you will. And we are complete as a universe.

I just visited an uncle of mine after a long while. We sat down over a cup of coffee and chatted. We spent 40 minutes of quality time. In these forty minutes, he told me everything about his side of the family and probed into every little bit that related to mine. Nothing was off-limits. Everything had to be spoken. He then took me across to meet his friends at the club. A motley group of nine quizzed the life out of me. It was not only about what I do, but about literally every aspect of life, money, investments, land, health, friendships, contacts and even my attitudinal disposition to politics, religion and more. Global warming and AI were included as top-up quizzes. The only subject left out of the discussion was sex. I don't know why though. I left that evening exhausted.

Does this sound familiar to you? Has it ever happened to you? Does this happen to you everyday? Are you immune to this? Is this the Indian way? Are we as intrusive as this all the time? And do you do to others what others do to you? Is the Indian an intrusive character? And is it fun to be like this? Let me discuss this further and do a contrast.

The last few years have seen me traverse quite a few countries and spend some time out there absorbing societies and people post work. At one end is the US. Gone are the days when the jolly and completely inane, "How you doing?" was being thrown about. Today, no one wants to know how I am doing. Everyone wants to be left alone. No one is connecting with their eyes. If on the train, you are not meant to connect with another with your eyes. That is considered intrusive. If you hear someone yelling at another, you are meant to ignore it and just get on with your life. Not stare, leave alone intervene. People are not meant to connect with people in public places without a purpose. That's the unwritten rule of a spanking new modern society. The new rules of civilised behaviour, if you may.

Europe on the other hand is a bit cooler on this count. A smile on the face is all fine. A return of a smile is fine as well, it seems. Again, this is contextual whether you are speaking Eastern Europe or Western. As you move to Asia, things get friendlier. Warmer. Even hotter.

Now the key question is a simple one. Which one is the correct way to be? Must people be cold to one another, warm, or so completely warm that you fry the brains of the receiver with this extra warmth, as the evening with my uncle and his friends at the club did mine? Must you be the intrusive Indian, the charming Frenchman or the completely private and insular American of today?

My considered view on this one emerges from a crazy fact. The fact remains that we are getting to be more and more mechanical. Data from diverse sets of studies tell us we are getting hooked to the digital medium so much that we don't rise above it. We are so totally steeped into our social media handles that we do not find the need to be social in our real lives at all.

Social media has made us antisocial for sure, at least in the traditional way. We see this with our youngsters all around. Digital dopamine is the new drug going around. It's free, it keeps you occupied, it makes you feel good and makes you want more and more of it all the while. Social media is designed to do just that.

As the days go by, as India emerges and merges into the world order and way of thinking, acting, behaving and living, it is time to sit up, spot and discuss the elephant in the room. Must we really go the way the US has, or must we stop the way we are moving right now? Is there an Indian way we want to reinvent and propitiate for the generation ahead of us? Is the intrusive Indian a great way to be?

I think it is. The reason is simple. The smallest unit of society is the individual. The loneliest unit of society is the individual as well. Man fights loneliness. It is this very fight that leads one to make friends and establish relationships. The ability to connect with one another in society is possibly a great parachute to use for a soft landing when the chips are down. Friends matter. As do acquaintances. As do strangers on a train. I do think society is meant to take care of one another, never mind whether you are related to one another by a family dog-tag or not. Smiling at a depressed stranger on a train could be of therapeutic value for all we know. In return, that connect could be a valuable whiff of dopamine for the self. The intrusive Indian is a great way to be. In many ways we are celebrating life and living it the way it must be. There is a joy in connecting with people everywhere and all the time. Let's preserve the Indian way. Let's get passionately intrusive.

(Views are personal)
(harishbijoor@hotmail.com)

FOR MORE FAIRNESS FROM THE FINANCE COMMISSION

R SRINIVASAN
Member, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission

J JEYARANJAN
Vice Chairman, Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission

THE Finance Commission is a constitutional body instituted by the Union government once in five years without any transparent discussion on selecting its members and its terms of reference (ToR). The FC's recommendations are not justiciable and not all recommendations are accepted by the government. Hence, apprehension about its neutral role in the distribution of tax revenues between the Union and state governments and grants-in-aid is not unfounded.

Normally, the Union government adds to the constitutionally mandated ToR using the Constitution's Article 280, sub-clause 3(d)—"any other matter referred to the commission by the president in the interests of sound finance". The NDA government gave a long ToR for the 15th FC that was coercive in more than one way. But the ToR for the 16th FC is just a reproduction of relevant provisions in Article 280. The change of mind was surprising.

It would not be a surprise if the new coalition government gives additional ToRs to the 16th FC. New Delhi is known for opacity in governance. The coalition partners from the states should act to bring in a federal spirit in the FC's functions.

Evolving terms of reference

If we peruse additional ToRs to various FCs, we get an idea about the development of fiscal policies and how the Centre coerced states to follow what it believed as fiscal prudence. The ToR of every FC retained almost all items in the previous ToR. This led to increasing ToRs for successive FCs.

A few ToRs added down the years are given here. One, for maintenance expenditure of the assets created by plan schemes, debt servicing expenditures shall be considered (4th FC). Two, while deciding the states' share in tax revenue, the revenue and expenditure commitments of the Union government shall be considered (5th FC). Three, the ToR for the 6th FC specified requirements of backward states to improve their administrative efficiency should be considered. Four, the need for ensuring reasonable returns on investments in irrigation and power projects, transport undertakings, industrial and commercial enterprises and the like was stipulated in the ToR for the 7th FC. It also specified to take 1971 population as a factor for determining taxes, duties and grants-in-aid. Five, the language of the ToR for the 9th FC (1987) reflected the economic reform process of the government. Many items from the ToRs of previous FCs were abridged and obvious reform phrases were used. Six, the ToR for the 11th FC included specific references to augmenting states' finances to devolve funds to local governments as per the 73rd and 74th Amendments of Constitution.

From the 12th FC to the 15th FC, the ToRs prominently contained the references to suggest measures to reduce public debt and restoring balanced Union and state budgets.

EXPRESS

> The Finance Commission's evolving terms of reference show how states' fiscal planning has been made more rigid, while the Union govt's options have been kept more flexible. The 9th commission headed by N K P Salve introduced reform language to go with the then govt's agenda

The ToR for the 14th FC specifically asked the FC to consider the demographic change since 1971. The ToR for the 15th FC explicitly stipulated the use of 2011 census instead of 1971, wherever population was a criterion.

The Union government need not accept all the recommendations of an FC. Almost all the FCs since the 1st FC recommended the creation of a permanent administrative establishment for FC to monitor the implementation of the recommendations and to collect real-time data on finances and other issues, and also an independent public-debt management institution. For more than 75 years, the Union government has not accepted this recommendation.

Almost all the recommendations regarding states' debt management were accepted in principle and some were implemented. One such was on the state fiscal responsibility laws. The requests to amend the states' fiscal responsibility laws were not accommodated, but those for the Union government were taken up several times to change the restrictive deficit ratios. The action taken reports on the recommendations of the 14th and 15th FCs show the Union government had implemented the recommendations regarding tax devolution and grants-in-aid; other recommendations were to be implemented after thorough studies. This leaves the scope to change the recommendations according to the Union government's preferences.

What should states do?

The states should get together to express their concerns about the ToRs for the 16th FC and compel the Union government not to add any other item. There are possibilities for the Union government to influence the FC to take a particular view or take up an issue that is not referred to it. First, the states should ask the FC to institute a transparent process of decision-making, such as publishing a draft paper on the issues in the ToR. Second, the normative approach to the revenue and expenditure projections of states should be discussed in a democratic manner. Third, a specific path to debt sustainability should be recommended in view of their different fiscal situations. Fourth, the issues to decide on the vertical share of the Union government's tax revenue should be discussed, with the states and the Union government as equal partners in generating and sharing tax revenues. Fifth, the horizontal sharing formula for distributing state share should be discussed because the 2021 census has not yet been conducted. It is equally important to resolve the long-pending issue of a trade-off between equity and efficiency in the distribution formula. There is a lot the states have to deliberate with the new government in New Delhi.

(Views are personal)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Other narratives

Ref: *Narratives that changed the poll wind* (Jun 17). The author aptly mentioned that the narrative by the opposition about saving democracy was a sham. When the BJP performed well in several states, it is shocking that its overall tally fell far below expectations. While its failure in Maharashtra could be due to wrong coalition strategy, the major shortfall in UP could be due to false narratives.
R Kasthurirangan, Bengaluru

Electorate's concerns

The article places too much emphasis on the power of narratives and underestimates the genuine concerns of the electorate. Economic disparity has increased significantly, and the dollar's rupee equivalent has multiplied since 2014, exacerbating inflation. These issues are not just abstract figures, but real challenges that affect daily life. It is crucial to acknowledge that voters are keenly aware of these problems.
Sandeep Kumar Pradhan, Bhubaneswar

Accept verdict

While the author points out that voters fell for the opposition narrative, would it have happened if the BJP had shown results in its two terms? The BJP had its own narrative as well, but voters heard it for too long without any visible outcomes. The BJP should take the verdict in a constructive way.
Vishnuvardhan Ravindrakumar, Karur

Political pitfalls

Ref: *The burden of hope on Suresh Gopi* (Jun 17). Suresh Gopi has to tread carefully as a Union minister. While keeping the image of a good samaritan that helped him win the election, he needs to be wary of pitfalls in politics. Perhaps he should use words extremely carefully.
Mohan Kunnakat, Vaniamkulam

Two-wheeler tax

Ref: *Coalition dynamics could reflect in GST council meet* (Jun 17). The GST council needs to look into various slabs on essential items. It is heartening to know that two-wheelers have been kept in the 28 percent slab. The council is requested to further review the GST structure on two-wheelers and reduce it to 18 percent.
N Lakshminarayana, Visakhapatnam

Fuel cost

GST always seems to have a negative impact on people as the rates from the Centre and states shoot double arrows on buyers. If the prices of petrol and diesel are brought under GST, costs may decrease considerably. I hope the TDP will play a significant role in bringing reforms in the rate rationalisation process.
Rajakumar Arulanandham, Palayamkottai

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Akhilesh Yadav @yadavakhilesh

When the govt is the same and its system is also same, then all the scams may again become a means of earning money for the 'exam mafias'.

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh

The NTA has blamed the NCERT for the 'grace marks' fiasco in NEET 2024. That is only drawing attention away from the NTA's own abject failures.

Aaditya Thackeray @AUThackeray

We held a press conference on the fraudulent process of election counting, that denied us a rightfully won seat. We will fight the biased process legally.

The increase in railway accidents in 10 years is a direct result of the mismanagement of the Modi govt, which results in loss of lives and property of passengers on a daily basis.

Rahul Gandhi

It is our duty to underline how the Modi Govt has systematically converted the Rail Ministry into a platform of 'Camera-driven' self-promotion !

Mallikarjun Kharge

Rescue operations are underway at the site and all possible assistance is being given to those affected. Praying for the speedy recovery of the injured.

Rajnath Singh

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

THE train accident involving the Kanchenjunga Express near New Jalpaiguri in West Bengal belies the railways' claims on a safe train journey. At least nine passengers were killed and 40 others injured when a goods train smashed into Kanchenjunga Express from the rear.

This is the fifth such accident in the last three years. Speaking to this newspaper, some witnesses to the accident site described the scene as heart-wrenching and chaotic with three overturned coaches. Passengers were desperately seeking help amid the wreckage.

According to a passenger, the train stopped abruptly with a sharp jerk accompanied by a loud sound. Upon disembarking, he saw that the goods train hit their rake from behind.

"We were having tea when the train stopped suddenly with a jerk," he said. A pregnant woman, traveling with her family, said she fell off her seat upon impact. "It felt like an earthquake. It took us some time to collect ourselves and understand what happened," she said, sitting with her family in one of the air-conditioned sleeper coaches.

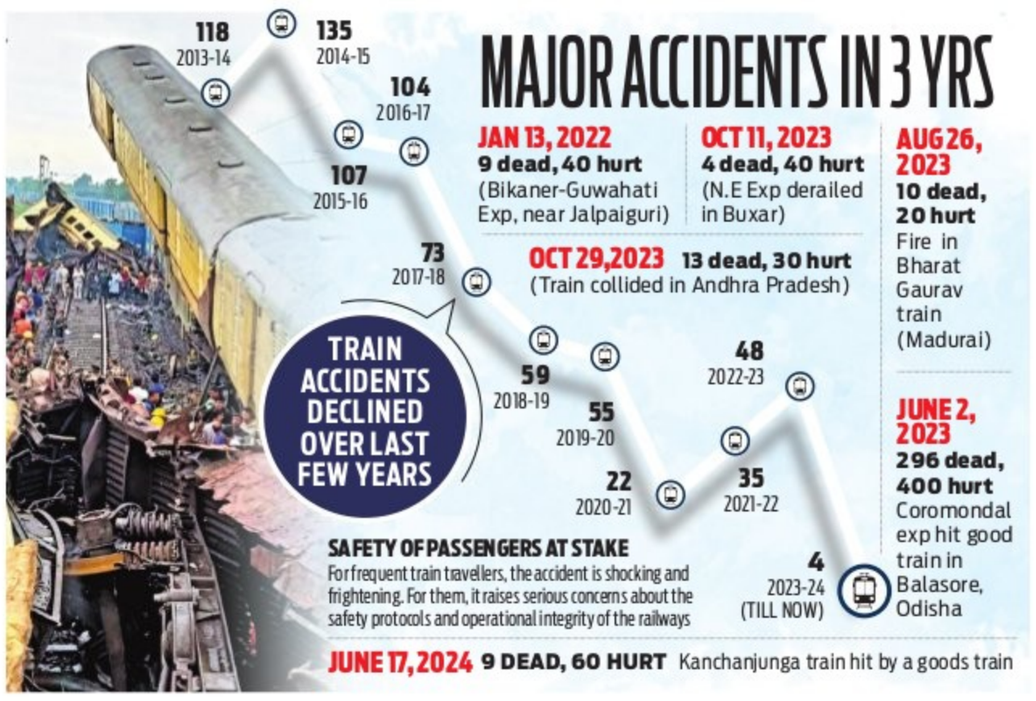
A passenger from Agartala, who was in coach number S6, said he felt a sudden jerk and the compartment screeched to a halt. "My wife, child and I somehow managed to come out of the mangled coach. We are currently stranded... The rescue operations also started quite late," the passenger said.

For frequent train travelers, the accident is shocking and frightening. A corporate professional living in Delhi, Sohan Kumar, said: "It raises serious concerns about the safety protocols and operational integrity of the railway system, despite assurances from authorities about the safe trains."

Reports said rescue teams swiftly arrived at the site and started their work of pulling out passengers. Railway officials have initiated an investigation, focusing on potential lapses in signaling or operational procedures.

A railway source said the Bikaner-Guwahati Express had derailed on January 13, 2022 near Jalpaiguri in which 9 passengers died and 40 others were injured. Another major train collision took place in Odisha's Balasore on June 2, 2023 claiming 296 lives and injuring 800 others. The accident involved a train that collided with the Coromodnal Express. On August 26, same year, a major fire erupted in the Bharat Gaurav tourist train Madurai, killing 10 people and on October 10, 2023, the North East Express derailed in Bihar's Buxar claiming the lives of four passengers and injuring more than 10 passengers. The year 2023 remained a year of many rail accidents. A train collided on October 29 in Vizianagar in AP resulting in the death of 13 passengers and injuries to 30.

In the current year, on February 17, a goods train derailed near Sarai-Rohilla in Delhi in which one person lost his life while on March 18, Sabarmati Express hit a goods train, leaving several people injured.


MAJOR ACCIDENTS IN 3 YRS
118 2013-14
135 2014-15
104 2016-17
107 2015-16
73 2017-18
59 2018-19
55 2019-20
22 2020-21
35 2021-22
48 2022-23
4 2023-24 (TILL NOW)
TRAIN ACCIDENTS DECLINED OVER LAST FEW YEARS
JAN 13, 2022 9 dead, 40 hurt (Bikaner-Guwahati Exp, near Jalpaiguri)
OCT 11, 2023 4 dead, 40 hurt (N.E Exp derailed in Buxar)
OCT 29,2023 13 dead, 30 hurt (Train collided in Andhra Pradesh)
AUG 26, 2023 10 dead, 20 hurt Fire in Bharat Gaurav train (Madurai)
JUNE 2, 2023 296 dead, 400 hurt Coromondal exp hit good train in Balasore, Odisha
SAFETY OF PASSENGERS AT STAKE
For frequent train travellers, the accident is shocking and frightening. For them, it raises serious concerns about the safety protocols and operational integrity of the railways
JUNE 17,2024 9 DEAD, 60 HURT Kanchanjunga train hit by a goods train

A probe focusing on lapses in signalling or operational procedures has been launched

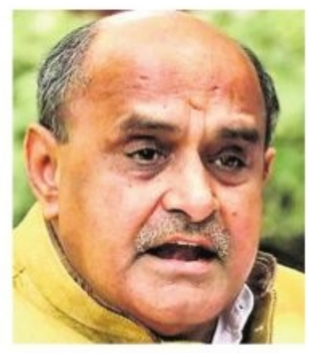
Safety goes off track, sends shivers down spine of travellers

In Monday's train accident, the preliminary investigations suggest that the accident could have been caused by the driver of the goods train who overshot the signal. The Railway Ministry has announced ex-gratia compensation to the families of the deceased and promised a thorough probe into the accident to ascertain the exact sequence of events and identify lapses in safety protocols. Despite many accidents, the railway authorities continue to claim overall improvement in safety measures. Officials said consequential accidents have decreased significantly from 2004-2013 to 2014-2023.

The recurrence of such accidents has sparked widespread criticism, with demands for immediate action to enhance safety measures and ensure accountability within the railway administration. Refuting allegations of increased train accidents, a railway official said that the number of consequential train accidents has declined.

During 2021-22 and 2022-23, a total of 48 and 35 consequential train accidents took place respectively. In 2024-25, four train accidents have taken place.

'JD(U) wants caste census, but without friction with Centre'



With 12 Lok Sabha seats, JD(U has emerged as one of the key players in PM Modi-led NDA government. In an interview with **Preetha Nair**, former JD(U) secretary general **K C Tyagi** talks about why the party will support BJP on speaker and deputy speaker, nationwide caste census. **Excerpts**:

The JD(U) got two ministerial berths — one cabinet and another MoS. Is there any disenchantment on the portfolios as claimed by the Opposition?
There is no disquiet in the party regarding ministerial berths. We are happy with the portfolios allocated to us. The JD(U) has not even demanded specific portfolios from the BJP.

The first major challenge of the NDA government will be the election of the speaker. Recently, the Shiv Sena (UBT) said that the INDIA bloc will support NDA ally TDP if it fields a candidate. The TDP said that the NDA will take a call. Are NDA allies on the same page?
The statement made by Congress and its allies is mischievous and is aimed at creating mistrust among NDA partners. It is a parliamentary tradition that the speaker's post is held by the ruling party. Also, the BJP is the largest party. So it's the discretion of the BJP to nominate the speaker.

The opposition is demanding the post of the deputy speaker, which by convention is held by a member of an Opposition party. It was vacant for five years. What would be your party's stand?
The tradition was that the deputy speaker post was held by an Opposition member. The situation has changed and both the speaker and the deputy speaker posts now go to the ruling party. Since Independence, speakers have been chosen by consensus. It will be ideal if NDA and INDIA leaders sort out their differences. The BJP and the Congress should take the initiative on this.

INDIA bloc claims that if the BJP gets the speaker post, it will break TDP, JD(U) and others...
The JD(U) fought the election as part of the NDA and will remain a part of the NDA in future. Nitish Kumar served as a minister in Vajpayee's cabinet and he shares a good rapport with all leaders. We have opposed the BJP on policy matters. But they never tried to break us. Therefore, such allegations are false.

Mallikarjun Kharge has recently said that the NDA government will fall anytime. But you claimed that the INDIA bloc offered the PM post to Nitish Kumar...
There are no cracks in the NDA. After June 4, the INDIA bloc offered the PM post to Nitish Kumar, which he refused.

The JD(U) has been vocal about nationwide caste census. But the Modi government has never cleared its position on it. As an NDA ally, what is your position now? Will you still pursue the demand for a caste census?
We are committed to a nationwide caste census. However, we don't want any confrontation with the Centre. We hope that it will conduct a pan-India caste census. Our party and Nitish Kumar have always championed the cause of social justice.

Bihar is the first state government to publish the outcome of a caste-based survey. The Centre challenged Bihar's caste survey in the Supreme Court. What is the stand of the BJP now?
We started implementing welfare schemes as per the results shown by the survey. The BJP has not opposed our plans.

Issues such as 'One Nation one poll', Uniform Civil Code, and Delimitation, are being contested by several Opposition parties. What is your party's stand?
We support the NDA government on 'One Nation One Poll'. Our party will support the BJP if NDA government needs a two-third majority in Parliament to pass constitutional amendments on the implementation of One Nation One poll.

BJP likely to retain speaker, NDA meet soon

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

THE BJP is likely to retain the Lok Sabha Speaker post in the NDA-III government and incumbent **Om Birla** may continue for another term, sources in the party indicated on Monday. The sources said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision on who will chair the Lok Sabha will be accepted by the BJP's allies. Ahead of the first session of the 18th Lok Sabha beginning from June 24, a crucial meeting of the NDA allies is expected to take place this week to arrive at a consensus on the selection of the Speaker.

"Wait, everything will be clear after this meeting. BJP's intention is to select a speaker which is acceptable to the allies. A meeting with the allies will make this clear this week," a senior BJP leader said. "The final declaration of the name will be made by the PM on June 26 -- the day election for this post has been scheduled in the LS -- reflecting the coalition's strategic cohesion," the leader said.

Sources said that a meeting of the NDA allies may take place either on June 20 to evolve a streamlined approach for selecting a Speaker by June 26.

Among the names doing the rounds for the constitutional position in the Lok Sabha are D Purandeshwari, a BJP MP and party chief in Andhra Pradesh (now under the rule of TDP, an alliance partner of NDA), and Radha Mohan Singh, a six-time MP and former Union minister. "If no consensus emerges on any of these two names, the incumbent Speaker's continuity remains a possibility," a BJP leader said, claiming that no difference among the NDA allies will crop up on the election of LS Speaker.

If sources are to be believed, the BJP may think of giving the deputy LS speaker post to its NDA ally like TDP. "In addition to the speaker's appointment, a strategic allocation of the deputy Lok Sabha speaker post, potentially to accommodate alliance partners like the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) is almost certain with an aim to balance regional representation within the NDA in the LS following the NDA's commitment to inclusivity and effective governance," a BJP leader said.

"If the BJP's anticipated retention of the LS Speaker post gets materialised, it will certainly underscore its organizational stability and leadership continuity," the leader said.

A BJP senior leader, familiar with the development regarding on LS speaker selection, said, "As preparations intensify for the upcoming parliamentary session, the selection of the Lok Sabha Speaker stands as a pivotal decision for the NDA coalition. With deliberations ongoing and consensus-building efforts in full swing, the coalition aims to solidify its leadership structure to effectively address national challenges."

If the Opposition forces an election to the post of Speaker next week, it would be the first such instance in the history of independent India as the presiding officer has always been chosen by a consensus. Since Independence, Lok Sabha Speakers have been chosen by consensus, and only M A Ayyangar, G S Dhillon, Balram Jakhar and G M C Balayogi have retained the coveted posts in the subsequent Lok Sabhas.

Deputy speaker post likely for alliance partner

If sources are to be believed, the BJP may think of giving the deputy LS speaker post to its NDA ally like TDP. "A strategic allocation of the deputy Lok Sabha speaker post, potentially to accommodate alliance partners like the TDP is almost certain with an aim to balance regional representation within the NDA in the LS following the NDA's commitment to inclusivity and effective governance," a BJP leader said.

Indian accused in Pannun murder plot taken to US

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

NIKHIL Gupta, accused by the US Department of Justice in November 2023 of allegedly being involved in the murder-for-hire of US citizen and Khalistani separatist **Gurpatwant Singh Pannun**, was extradited to the US on June 14 from Ruzyne Airport in Prague, a year after his detention there.

Gupta, 52, is expected to appear before a New York court soon. If the charges against him are proven, he could face up to two decades in prison, according to sources. The decision to extradite Gupta was made on June 3 by the Minister of Justice of the Czech Republic, Pavel Blazek. This decision followed two earlier decisions to extradite him: the first by the Municipal Court of Prague on November 23, 2023, and the second on January 8, 2024 by the Prague High Court.

"The extradition to the US was authorised for criminal prosecution on suspicion of committing the crime of conspiracy to commit a murder for hire with the intent to cause death, in violation of US laws," said Vladimir Repka, spokesperson for the Ministry of Justice of the Czech Republic.

Meanwhile, the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic rejected Gupta's appeal against the court ruling allowing his extradition to the US as 'prima facie unfounded.' His case was then moved to the Minister of Justice, Pavel Blazek.

In his appeal against the Czech court's decisions, Gupta contended that the lower courts had not sufficiently assessed the political nature of the act he was accused of. However, the Constitutional Court countered this, stating that the lower courts had thoroughly dealt with the extradition documents supplied by American authorities and, in response to objections by Gupta, also requested additional information.

Gupta was named in an indictment filed by US prosecutors last November, allegedly working alongside employees of the Indian government. He was arrested and detained on June 30th, 2023. Indian officials were given consular access to him a few times.

Gupta has been accused of a murder-for-hire plot to kill Pannun, who holds dual US-Canadian citizenship and resides in New York. Pannun was designated a terrorist by India in 2020 and is the founder of the banned Khalistani outfit called Sikhs for Justice.

Nikhil has been extradited from the Czech Republic to the US under allegations of conspiring to assassinate Sikh separatist leader Pannun. He was apprehended last year at the request of the US government and is presently held at the Metropolitan Detention Centre in Brooklyn.

Gupta, represented by attorney Rohini Musa, has vehemently denied the charges, claiming he is unjustly accused. In a petition to the Indian Supreme Court, attorney Rohini Musa asserted that there is no evidence linking Gupta to the purported assassination plot, stating, "There is nothing on record to substantiate the petitioner's involvement in the alleged conspiracy to assassinate the purported victim."

Who is Nikhil Gupta?

Nikhil Gupta, a 52-year-old Indian national, has been extradited from the Czech Republic to the US under allegations of conspiring to assassinate Sikh separatist leader Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. He was apprehended last year at the request of the US government and is presently held at the Metropolitan Detention Centre in Brooklyn.

'40% people with bipolar disorder achieved complete mental health'

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

OVER 40% of people diagnosed with bipolar disorder were free of symptoms and about a quarter achieved complete mental health, a new study has said.

One of the reasons for this turnaround was having a trusted confidant which helped the person achieve complete mental health, said the study, published in the Journal of Affective Disorders Reports.

Bipolar disorder is marked by extreme mood and energy swings and can sometimes be accompanied by hallucinations and delusions. However, the study by the University of Toronto said despite encouraging results, people with a history of mental conditions were less likely to be flourishing compared to their peers.

"The adoption of spirituality as a coping mechanism and the absence of chronic pain were also identified as strong predictors for psychological flourishing," said co-author of the study, Ishnaa Gulati.

"Individuals with a history of bipolar disorder still face challenges in achieving complete mental health compared to those without such a diagnosis," said author Melanie J Katz, a researcher at the University of Toronto. The researchers compared 555 Canadians with a history of bipolar disorder to 20,530 respondents without such a history.

They also had to report daily social and psychological well-being and happiness or life satisfaction. Interventions designed to foster supportive environments, strengthen social bonds, enhance coping mechanisms, and address physical health concerns, such as chronic pain, could empower individuals with bipolar disorder to navigate their path toward recovery, said authors.

The study also found a higher prevalence of complete mental health among married individuals, older respondents, those with higher income, and those with no lifetime history of drug or alcohol abuse. "We hope that those with the disorder will be heartened to learn that that one-quarter of the respondents who previously had bipolar disorder were now happy or satisfied with their life almost every day," Esme Fuller-Thomson, professor at the University of Toronto's Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work and director of the Institute for Life Course and Aging.

DRUNK DRIVER

Two women were crushed to death on Monday after a car allegedly driven by a drunk engineering student in Dighori area of Nagpur ploughed into a group of people sleeping on a footpath, a police officer said.

10 BOOKED FOR ASSAULTING HOTELIER IN PALGHAR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	39	30	Mumbai	31	27
Bhopal	37	26	Panaji	29	26
Jaipur	42	32	Patna	43	32
Amritsar	45	31	Lucknow	45	33
Chennai	36	28	Port Blair	31	27
Kolkata	36	29	Imphal	27	23
Srinagar	31	16	Chandigarh	45	30

Barely after a month of Lok Sabha elections, major political parties to lock horns yet again

Parties set for July retest in 7 states

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

BYPOLLS to fill vacancies in 13 assembly constituencies across seven states will be held on July 10, with vote counting on July 13. The last date to file nominations is June 21, and candidates can withdraw their candidacy until June 26.

In Tamil Nadu's Vikravandi, the NDA candidate will face the DMK nominee. The AIADMK is boycotting the elections, claiming the DMK will incite violence and hinder independent voting. C. Anbumani of the Pattali Makkal Katchi, an NDA constituent, will contest the Vikravandi by-poll.

Ramadoss, founder of the Pattali Makkal Katchi, a constituent of the BJP-led NDA in Tamil Nadu, has confirmed that his party's vice-president, C. Anbumani, will contest the Vikravandi by-poll. The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) has announced Anniyur Siva as its candidate for the Vikravandi by-election.

In West Bengal, the BJP has nominated Kalyan Chaubey for the Maniktala constituency in Kolkata, Manas Kumar Ghosh for Raiganj in Uttar Dinajpur district, Manoj Kumar Biswas for Ranaghat Dakshin (SC) in Nadia district, and Binay Kumar Biswas for the Bagda (SC) seat. Both Manoj Kumar Biswas and Binay Kumar Biswas belong to the Matua community, which has a significant voter base in Ranaghat Dakshin and Bagda, both reserved for SCs. Chaubey was previously defeated by TMC leader Sadhan Pandey in the 2021 assembly polls, but the seat became vacant after Pandey's death.

The TMC has announced Krishna Kalyani for Raiganj, Mukut Mani Adhikari for Ranaghat Dakshin, Supti Pandey for Maniktala, and Madhuparna Thakur for Bagdah as their candidates. Kalyani had won Raiganj on a BJP ticket in the 2021 assembly polls and later switched to the TMC for the Lok Sabha polls but lost. Adhikari joined the TMC earlier this year and also lost in the Lok Sabha elections from Ranaghat.

BJP turncoat Biswajit Das joined the TMC and contested from the Bongaon Lok Sabha seat on a TMC ticket but was defeated.

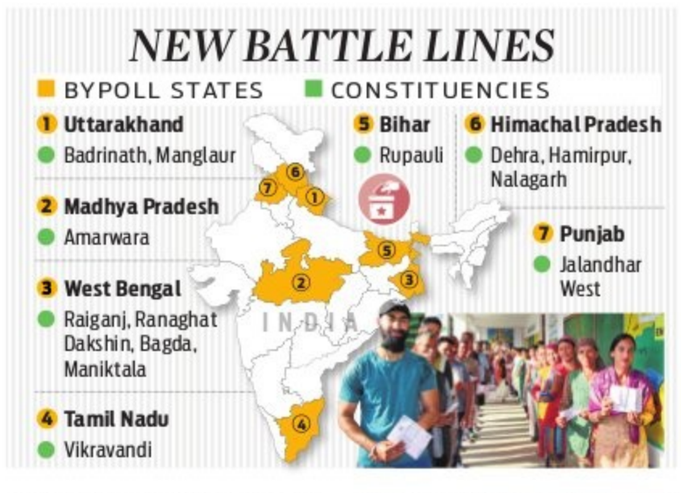
In the 2021 assembly polls, he was elected from Bagda on a BJP ticket but resigned before filing nominations for the Lok Sabha polls, leading to by-elections in the Bagda seat.

Himachal Pradesh will see contests in Dehra, Hamirpur, and Nalagarh. The Congress declared candidates for two assembly seats in Himachal Pradesh: Dr. Pushpendra Verma (Hamirpur) and Hardeep Singh Bawa (Nalagarh). Both candidates lost in the 2022 elections. The party has yet to announce a candidate for Dehra. The BJP has given tickets to three former Independent MLAs: Hoshary Singh Chambyal (Dehra), Ashish Sharma (Hamirpur), and K. L. Thakur (Nalagarh).

In Bihar, in addition to Rupauli, by-polls will also be conducted in the assembly seats of Ramgarh, Belaganj, Tarari, and Imamganj to fill vacancies that have emerged following the recent Lok Sabha elections.

The Rupauli seat was vacated by Bima Bharti, who resigned as a JD(U) MLA and joined the RJD to contest the Lok Sabha poll from Purnea. Meanwhile, in Punjab, the AAP has announced Mohinder Bhagat as its candidate for the Jalandhar West assembly seat, following Sheetal Angural's resignation. The BJP has nominated Sheetal Angural for the same seat.

Uttarakhand's Badrinath and Manglaur will go to the polls as well. The Badrinath seat became vacant when Congress MLA Rajendra Bhandari resigned from his position in March and joined the BJP. Rajendra Singh Bhandari will contest the Badrinath seat, and Kartar Singh Bhadana is candidate for the Manglaur seat.



5 Union ministers to steer BJP plan in assembly polls

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

WEEKS after falling short of a majority on its own in the Lok Sabha elections, the BJP shifted its attention towards the assembly polls scheduled later this year. BJP president JP Nadda on Monday appointed the party's election in-charges and co-incharges for assembly poll-bound Maharashtra, Haryana, Jharkhand and Jammu and Kashmir.

Union minister Bhupender Yadav was appointed as the incharge for Maharashtra and Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw the co-incharge. Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan and former Tripura CM Biplab Kumar Deb have been made the incharge and co-incharge for Haryana. For Jharkhand, Union minister and former Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan is the incharge and Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma the co-incharge. Union minister G Kishan Reddy has been appointed as the incharge for J&K.

While assembly polls in Maharashtra, Haryana and Jharkhand are due later this year, the Supreme Court has directed the Election Commission to hold the elections in Jammu and Kashmir by September.

"The outcome of these assembly polls will not only shape regional politics but also influence national political narratives under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership," said a senior BJP office-bearer.

Yadav and Vaishnaw, credited with the BJP's successful campaign in Madhya Pradesh last year, "have been assigned with the task of bringing about desired results in Maharashtra," a BJP leader said. "After forming an alliance with the Eknath Shinde faction of Shiv Sena and Ajit Pawar-led NCP, our party now aims to counter the Congress-Shiv Sena-NCP coalition" he said.

A senior BJP leader, close to the team taking organisational decisions, said, "The BJP's proactive stance in appointing seasoned leaders reflects its strategy to consolidate gains from the Lok Sabha polls."

PATNA DIARY

RAMASHANKAR

Our correspondent in Bihar

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Rohini Acharya is a migratory bird: BJP

Though Lok Sabha election is over, political party leaders continue to attack each other. A senior BJP leader Niraj Kumar Singh Babloo took a jibe at RJD leader Rohini Acharya who went to Singapore after unsuccessfully contesting Lok Sabha election from Saran seat. Acharya, daughter of RJD chief Lalu Prasad, was defeated by BJP MP and former union minister Rajiv Pratap Rudy. Babloo, who is a senior minister in the Nitish Kumar cabinet, described Acharya a 'migratory bird' who flew to Singapore after she lost. She had come here like a migratory bird who went home after staying here for quite some time.

PM to inaugurate new Nalanda univ campus

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is arriving on a day-long visit to Bihar on June 19. He is scheduled to inaugurate the campus of Nalanda University, named after the world-famous ancient seat of learning, at Rajgir in Nalanda district. Dignitaries like Governor Rajendra Vishwath Arlekar and chief minister Nitish Kumar are likely to attend the function. People are hopeful that PM Modi will offer something new to the international university. RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav took a potshot at PM's frequent visit to Bihar and asked, "Will Bihar benefit from Modi's frequent visit?"

Nitish promises 12 lakh jobs within a year

There will be plenty of jobs in the state in the days to come. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said that the government was working in mission mode to provide 12 lakh jobs to people within a year. After chairing a high-level meeting, which was attended by chief secretary Brajesh Mehrotra and other officials, Nitish said that he has directed the officials to prepare a blueprint and start work on war footing to achieve the target. He said that two lakh jobs will be given to people in next three months alone. The government had earlier decided to give 10 lakh jobs under Saat Nischay Part -2. By the end of 2025, 11 lakh employment opportunities will be created.

Uddhav to sue poll official over defeat by 48 votes in Mumbai Northwest seat

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

THE Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena will move court against the returning officer of the Mumbai Northwest Lok Sabha seat for "illegally" declaring the rival Sena candidate a winner by a mere 48 votes. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Anil Parab alleged that returning officer Vandana Suryawanshi failed to maintain transparency in the counting process. "Everything was fine till the 19th round of counting," he said.

"However, when Shiv Sena (UBT)'s Ravindra Waikar started trailing, the RO stopped sharing the data with counting agents. Besides, the counting table was kept far away where the counting agents of the candidate were unable to reach to see the details," said Parab. "A lot of secrecy was maintained which raises suspicion about foul play," said Parab.

He alleged his party candidate was ahead in EVM counting by a solitary vote. "It was recounted; Kirtikar remained ahead. It was then the returning officer got some phone calls. She looked under pressure and often left the table to speak to someone over the phone," said Parab. "She did not give us time to raise our concern," Parab alleged. A controversy has erupted over the alleged hacking of an EVM in the Mumbai Northwest Lok Sabha constituency where Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena candidate Ravindra Waikar was declared elected by a wafer-thin margin.

Suryawanshi has refuted all charges, asserting that an EVM cannot be hacked. "The EVM is a standalone non-programmable device that does not require any mobile OTP to unlock it," she said. "The EVM has no wireless and non-wireless capability. It is not a communication device. During polling, the result section of EVM gets sealed in front of polling agents. On the counting day, it is unsealed in the presence of counting agents. This is a fool-proof system," said the returning officer.

Parab, however, said an ECI press note admitted that a mobile set was illegally taken inside booth by breaching the three-tier security system. "It took 10 days to file an FIR against the data operator and Waikar's relative who was also involved. The police officers on the case have been sent on compulsory leave," said Parab.

PARTISAN POLITICS AT PLAY

Nitish MP says he won't 'help Muslims & Yadavs'

RAMASHANKAR @Patna

> If Muslims and Yadavs did not vote for us because they saw Modi's face on our poll symbol... When I meet someone from these communities, I can also see RJD symbol on their face... It takes two to clap
>
> Devesh Chandra Thakur, JD-U MP

JANATA Dal-United MP Devesh Chandra Thakur on Monday stoked a controversy with his remarks that he will not accept requests for help from people belonging to Muslim and Yadav communities as they didn't vote for him in the recently held Lok Sabha elections.

Thakur, who won the Sitamarhi seat with a 51,000 margin over the Rashtriya Janata Dal's (RJD) Arjun Ray, said being a JD(U) leader he had helped people from both the communities. But when it came to voting in elections, they did not vote for him because of the party's alliance with the BJP.

"If Muslims and Yadavs did not vote for the Arrow (JD-U's poll symbol) just because they saw Narendra Modi's face on our poll symbol... When someone comes to me from these communities, I can also see Lalu Prasad and the Lantern (RJD symbol) on their face... It takes two to clap," he said.

He said, "For any work concerning the society at large, they are most welcome, but not for any personal work". Thakur said it was a point he had been making in his speeches during his tour of the constituency to thank people for electing him from Sitamarhi.

Besides the victory, Thakur has been disappointed about a drop in his vote share and votes. Thakur secured 5,15,719 votes (47.14% vote share) and beat RJD's Arjun Rai with a margin of 51,000. On the other hand, his predecessor Sunil Kumar Pintu of the JD-U, who had won the Sitamarhi seat in 2019 Lok Sabha election, had secured 5,67,745 votes (54.65% vote share) in the previous election, defeating Rai with a margin of 2,50,000 votes. He was addressing a function held to felicitate him after on being elected as a Lok Sabha member.

Vote share

Thakur secured 5,15,719 votes (47.14% vote share) and beat RJD's Arjun Rai with a margin of 51,000. On the other hand, his predecessor Sunil Kumar Pintu (JD-U), who had won the Sitamarhi seat in 2019 LS polls, had 54.65% vote share earlier

Vadodara BJP chief links grant to poor turnout

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

> Whether it's the 2019 elections, the 2020 corporation polls, the 2022 assembly elections, or the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, BJP consistently gets votes from the same type of booths
>
> Dr Vijay Shah, BJP's Vadodara president

BJP's Vadodara president Dr Vijay Shah stirred a controversy by asserting that booths with lower voter turnout in the last three elections will not qualify for financial assistance. He made the controversial statement during a ceremony held to honour the newly elected MP Hemang Joshi in the Raopura assembly.

"Whether it's the 2019 elections, the 2020 corporation polls, the 2022 assembly elections, or the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, BJP consistently gets votes from the same type of booths," Dr Shah said. "Conversely, there are booths where the party repeatedly gets fewer votes, sometimes in single digits, whether it's 700 or 800 people voting. Party leaders and elected representatives should consider which areas to prioritise based on the voting pattern."

"Our budget should not be spent in areas that have not voted for us in the past five, ten, or fifteen years. We should focus on the areas where people vote in large numbers," he added. His statement has drawn condemnation from the Gujarat Congress. Even Yogesh Patel, BJP's senior MLA from Manjalpur in Vadodara, also expressed his displeasure. BJP MLA Yogesh Patel stated, "Vijaybhai is our president, and those are his personal views, which led him to make such a statement. Politics should not be conducted with hatred towards voters. I completely disagree with city president Vijay Shah's statement."

He added, "We do not discriminate based on caste. All communities have an equal right to development. There is no BJP, Congress, or party politics for development. Despite there being no Muslim MLA in the city to date, I have united all communities and served all voters. I have also worked for those who did not vote for me."

Equal right for all

BJP's senior MLA Yogesh Patel said he does not discriminate based on caste. All communities have an equal right to development." Despite there being no Muslim MLA in city to date, I have united all and served all voters."

5 Maoists, including 2 women, gunned down in J'khand encounter; 2 arrested

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

FIVE Maoists, including two women, were gunned down, while two others were arrested in an encounter with security forces in Jharkhand's Chaibasa, police said, adding the rebels included a zonal and a sub-zonal commander. The Maoists have suffered heavy losses, police said, adding the encounter started early morning on Monday in the Kolhan jungles of Chaibasa (West Singhbhum).

Chaibasa SP Ashutosh Shekhar confirmed the Maoist casualties. "Out of the five Maoists killed in the encounter, one was a zonal commander while another one is a sub-zonal commander, one was area commander while the remaining two were the woman cadre of the Maoists," said the SP.

The security forces also nabbed two Maoists, one is an area commander and another a hardcore female Maoist, he added.

IG (Operations) and Jharkhand Police spokesperson AV Homkar said a huge cache of arms and ammunition, along with other articles of daily use were recovered along with the bodies of the Maoists from the encounter site. "Besides the five bodies, one INSAS, 2 self-loading rifles, 3 303 rifles, along with a 9 mm pistol have been recovered," said Homkar. The slain rebels are identified as zonal commander Singrai alias Manoj Kunjam, sub-zonal commander Kande Honhaga alias Dirishum, area commander Surya alias Manta Devgam and a woman Maoist Jonga Purti alias Marla, he said.

Later during the search operation, one more body of a woman Maoist was recovered in the afternoon, which has been identified as Sanpani Hansda, Homkar said, adding that except the two women Maoists, the police had already announced a reward on all slain rebels. "A reward of Rs 10 lakh was announced on Singrai alias Manoj while Kande and Surya had a reward of Rs 5 lakh and Rs 2 lakh respectively on their heads," said a police spokesperson. The two arrested Maoists, are identified as Tiger alias Pandu Hansda and Batri Devgam.

Police sources said the security forces had gone out on a search operation in the Guwa forest area. The Maoists ambushed the forces by firing indiscriminately. The security forces also fired back in retaliation killing four Maoists.

Jain idols to be restored in Gujarat after protests

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

THE Gujarat government on Monday directed officials in Panchmahal district to restore centuries-old Jain idols to their original location near the steps leading to the Kalika Mata temple on Pavagadh hill.

The decision came after community members held protests claiming that the idols of Jain Tirthankars (supreme spiritual teachers) had been removed by the temple trust during a renovation project. However, the trust explained that the idols might have been inadvertently displaced while dismantling an old shed on the stairs, emphasising that there was no malicious intent behind the action.

These Jain idols were originally placed on both sides of the steps of an old, currently unused pathway leading to the hill temple. On Monday, some community members discovered that the idols had been removed from the side walls and placed together in one location, Jain leader Dinesh Shah said.

Upon learning about the removal of 6 to 7 idols, Jain community members and religious leaders staged protests in Vadodara, Halol and Surat, and submitted memoranda to district collectors. In response, Gujarat Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi, after consulting Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, ordered the restoration of the idols to their original positions.

"These idols, placed there centuries ago, have been worshiped by people for generations. No permission was ever granted to any trust or individual to remove them. This act has deeply hurt the religious sentiments of many," Sanghvi said.

"After discussing the issue with the Chief Minister, the Panchmahal district collector has been instructed to reinstall the idols at their original location near the steps," he added.

In a memorandum submitted to the Halol police, community leader Kiran Duggad accused the trustees of Shree Kalika Mataji Mandir Trust of removing the idols. He demanded immediate restoration of the idols and registration of an FIR against those responsible for "hurting the religious sentiments of Jains." Vinod Variya, a temple trustee, held a meeting with Jain leaders and district authorities in Halol, where he announced that the idols would be reinstalled at their original place. "I want to clarify that there was no desecration of any religious structure," Variya said. "Some idols may have been displaced during renovation. However, we reached the solution of restoring the idols to their place."

Idols of Tirthankars displaced during renovation

The decision came after community members held protests claiming that the idols of Jain Tirthankars had been removed by the temple trust during a renovation project. However, the trust explained the idols might have been displaced while dismantling an old shed on the stairs

3 children killed
After fire rips through a six-storey building in Hanoi

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • WI: Windy • HR: Heavy Rain • SN: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	37	26	SNY	Los Angeles	26	16	SNY
Colombo	31	27	SNY	Melbourne	12	1	SNY
Dhaka	34	28	SNY	Moscow	23	16	LR
Dubai	38	33	SNY	New York	29	21	SNY
Houston	30	24	LR	Singapore	32	26	LC
Istanbul	31	22	SNY	Toronto	29	21	SNY
London	21	13	SNY	Washington	17	11	SNY

EID MESSAGE

Taliban leader warns against earning money or global honour

ISLAMABAD

THE Taliban's reclusive supreme leader on Monday warned Afghans against earning money or gaining worldly honour at a time when the country is in the grip of humanitarian crises and isolated on the global stage.

Hibatullah Akhundzada gave his warning in a sermon to mark the festival of Eid al-Adha at a mosque in southern Kandahar province, weeks before a Taliban delegation goes to Doha, Qatar for UN-hosted talks on Afghanistan.

This is the first round of talks the Taliban will attend since they seized power in August 2021. They weren't invited to the conference of foreign special envoys to Afghanistan in the first round, and they snubbed the second round because they wanted to be treated as the country's official representatives.

No government recognises the Taliban as the legitimate rulers of Afghanistan, whose aid-dependent economy was plunged into turmoil following their takeover.

UN spokesperson St'phane Dujarric said the invitation to the Doha meeting at the end of June does not imply recognition of the Taliban.

Messages by him and another influential Taliban figure, Sirajuddin Haqqani, to mark a religious festival in April showed tensions between hardliners, moderate elements. *AP*

Chinese, Philippine vessels collide in South China Sea

Both sides blame each other of the collision; Washington condemns Beijing's aggressive, dangerous maneuvers that led to the collision

TAIPEI

A Chinese vessel and a Philippine supply ship collided near the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea on Monday, China's coast guard said, in the latest flare-up of escalating territorial disputes that have sparked alarm.

The coast guard said a Philippine supply ship entered waters near the Second Thomas Shoal, a submerged reef in the Spratly Islands, part of a territory claimed by several nations. The Philippines says the shoal falls within its internationally recognised exclusive economic zone and often cites a 2016 international arbitration ruling invalidating China's expansive South China Sea claims based on historical grounds.

The Chinese coast guard said the Philippine craft "ignored China's repeated solemn warnings ... and dangerously approached a Chinese vessel in normal navigation in an unprofessional manner, resulting in a collision."

"The Philippines is entirely responsible for this," the coast guard said in its statement on the social media.

Meanwhile, the Philippine military called the Chinese coast guard's report "deceptive and misleading," and said it would "not discuss operational details on the legal humanitarian rotation and resupply mission at Ayungin Shoal, which is well within our exclusive economic zone." It used the Philippine name for the shoal, where Filipino navy personnel have transported food, medicine and other supplies to a long-grounded warship that has served as Manila's territorial outpost. Philippine Defence Secretary Gilberto Teodoro Jr. said his country's armed forces would resist "China's dangerous and reckless behaviour," which "contravenes their statements of good faith and decency."

"We will exert our utmost in order to fulfill our sworn mandate to protect our territorial integrity, sovereignty, and sovereign rights," Teodoro said. "It should now be clear to the international community that China's actions are the true obstacles to peace and stability in the South China Sea."

The US condemned China's "aggressive, dangerous maneuvers" near the shoal, which "caused bodily injury, damaged Philippine vessels," US Ambassador to Manila MaryKay Carlson said in a statement on X.

Two speedboats — attempting to deliver construction materials and other supplies to a military vessel stationed at the shoal — accompanied the supply ship, according to China's Foreign Ministry. *AP*

File photo taken on March 5, 2024 shows a China Coast Guard vessel (R) sailing in front of a Philippine patrol vessel during a supply mission in South China Sea | AFP

Truce attempts in trouble as Israeli war cabinet dissolved

A file photo of (from left) Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and Cabinet Minister Benny Gantz | AP

TEL AVIV

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dissolved the influential War Cabinet that has overseen the fighting in Gaza, Israeli officials said on Monday, a move that comes days after a key member of the body bolted from the government over frustration with the Israeli leader's handling of the war. The move was widely expected following the departure earlier this month of Benny Gantz, a centrist former military chief.

Gantz's absence from the government increases Netanyahu's dependence on his ultra-nationalist allies, who oppose a ceasefire. That could pose an additional challenge to the already fragile negotiations to end the eight-month war in Gaza.

Netanyahu would hold smaller forums for sensitive war issues, including with his Security Cabinet, which includes far-right governing partners who oppose cease-fire deals and have voiced support for reoccupying Gaza.

The War Cabinet was formed in the early days of the war, when Gantz, then an opposition party leader and Netanyahu rival, joined the coalition in a show of unity following the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on southern Israel. He demanded that a small decision-making body steer the war, in a bid to sideline far-right members of Netanyahu's government. It was made up of three members — Gantz, Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant.

The move to scrap the War Cabinet comes as Israel faces more pivotal decisions.

Israel and Hamas are weighing the latest proposal for a ceasefire in exchange for the release of hostages taken by Hamas during its attack.

Israeli troops are still bogged down in the Gaza Strip, fighting in the southern city of Rafah and against pockets of Hamas resurgence elsewhere. And violence continues unabated between Israel and Hezbollah — with a Biden administration envoy in the region to avert a wider war on a second front.

WAR WATCH
ISRAEL-GAZA: DAY 255

TOLL SO FAR
39,034

Top US diplomat comes to the region

A top US diplomat tasked with quelling tensions between Israel and Hezbollah arrived in Israel for talks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other top leaders. Amos Hochstein, a senior adviser to President Joe Biden, arrived Monday at a time of heightened tensions between Israel and Hezbollah. Few details were made public about the visit, which was announced by Netanyahu's office. The fighting has raised concerns that tensions could escalate into a full-blown war. Hochstein is expected to travel to Lebanon on Tuesday.

Nuclear-armed nations continue to modernise weapons, says think tank

TOP 4 SPENDERS ON NUKE WEAPONS IN 2023

US $51.5 bn
CHINA $11.8 bn
RUSSIA $8.3 bn
BRITAIN $8.1 bn

COPENHAGEN

THE world's nine nuclear-armed states continue to modernise their nuclear weapons as the countries deepened their reliance on such deterrence in 2023, a Swedish think tank said on Monday. "We have not seen nuclear weapons playing such a prominent role in international relations since the Cold War," said Wilfred Wan, director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's weapons of mass destruction program. Earlier this month, Russia and its ally Belarus launched a second stage of drills intended to train their troops in tactical nuclear weapons, part of the Kremlin's efforts to discourage the West from ramping up support for Ukraine.

In a separate report, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, ICAN, said the nine nuclear-armed states spent a combined total of $91.4 billion on their arsenals in 2023 – equivalent to $2,898 per second. The Geneva-based coalition of disarmament activists won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017. The group said that figures show a $10.7 billion increase in global spending on nuclear weapons in 2023 compared to 2022, with the United States accounting for 80% of that increase. "There has been a notable upward trend in the amount of money devoted to developing these most inhumane and destructive of weapons over the past five years," said Alicia Sanders-Zakre, Policy and Research Coordinator with ICAN. "All this money is not improving global security, in fact it's threatening people wherever they live," Sanders-Zakre said.

SIPRI estimated that some 2,100 of the deployed warheads were kept in a state of high operational alert on ballistic missiles, and nearly all belong to Russia or the USA. *AP*

EXPRESS READ

Recently elected Mayor shot dead in Mexico

Mexico City: A recently elected mayor was shot and killed on Monday in southern Mexico, in the state of Guerrero, local authorities said. Salvador Villalva Flores was on a bus when was he was shot in the head in the town of San Pedro las Playas. He was elected mayor on June 2.

US official suggests labels on social media

Washington: US Surgeon General Dr Vivek Murthy on Monday urged Congress to impose smoking-style warning labels on social media platforms, citing the threat they pose to children's mental health. In an op-ed published in *The New York Times*, the top Indian-American physician said the mental health crisis among young people is an urgent problem.

PUTIN TO VISIT NORTH KOREA

SEOUL

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin will visit North Korea for a two-day visit starting Tuesday, both countries announced, amid international concerns about their military cooperation. Putin is expected to meet North Korean leader Kim Jong Un for talks as they deepen their alignment in the face of separate, intensifying confrontations with Washington. It will be Putin's first trip to North Korea in 24 years. North Korea's official *Korean Central News Agency* said Putin will pay a state visit on Tuesday and Wednesday at Kim's invitation. North Korean state media didn't immediately provide details. Russia confirmed the visit in a simultaneous announcement. There are growing concerns about an arms arrangement in which Pyongyang provides Moscow with badly needed munitions to fuel Putin's war in Ukraine in exchange for economic assistance and technology transfers that would enhance the threat posed by Kim's nuclear weapons and missile programme. Military, economic and other cooperation between N Korea and Russia have sharply increased since Kim visited the Russia in September. *AP*

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As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower(s) Loan Account Number's	Description of Property / Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice / Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	C H Paul (Borrower), Ramesh Chittem (Co-borrower), Sreekanth C H (Co-borrower), C Krupadanam (Co-Borrower), LHBWQ00001318538.	Site No 52 5th Crooss Lakshmi Layout Vittasandram M Begur Hobli, Bangalore-560068 (Ref. Lan No. LHBWQ00001318538). Bounded By- North: Road, South: Strom Water Drain, East: Eastern Portion Of Prop No 52 , West: Prop No 51. Date of Possession **12-Jun-24**	20-10-2021 Rs. 3124790	Bangalore-Marathahalli-B
2.	Jagdish Kumar (Borrower), Sudha M (Co-Borrower), LHBWQ00001323181.	Property No.23, Chinnappahali Main Road Hanuma Reddy Layout, Kr Puram 33 Bangalore (Ref. Lan No. LHBWQ00001323181). Bounded By- North: Private Property, South: Road & Private Property, East: Private Property, West: Private Property. Date of Possession **12-Jun-24**	18-02-2022 Rs. 4658556	Bangalore-Marathahalli-B
3.	Chirsty Avinash S J (Borrower), P Ravikala (Co-Borrower), LHBWQ00001328163.	13 Site No 13, 2nd Cross, MSP Royal Residency E-khata No.105200400421196 Kithaganur Village, Bangalore 560036 Sy No 120/4 Old No 120/1 Bangalore - 560049 (Ref. Lan No. LHBWQ00001328163). Bounded By- North: Site No.14, South: Road, East: Road, West: Remaining Western Portion of Same Site No.13 . Date of Possession **12-Jun-24**	12-05-2023 Rs. 2499272	Bangalore-Marathahalli-B
4.	D Devaraj (Borrower), D Amudha (Co-Borrower), LHBWQ00001404436.	Property No 31, Form No - 9 & 11, Khata No-158/31, Measuring 1200.Sqf Nandi Kalapavruksha Garden Mahappanahalli Sarjapura Hobli Sy No 43 Bangalore Karnataka 562125 (Ref. Lan No. LHBWQ00001404436). Bounded By- North: Site No. 32,south: Site No. 30, East: Panchyath Road, West: Property Belongs To Geetha L. Date of Possession **12-Jun-24**	18-03-2024 Rs. 2146100	Bangalore-Marathahalli-B
5.	D Devaraj (Borrower), D Amudha (Co-Borrower), LHBWQ00001419625.	Property No 31, Form No-9 & 11, Khata No-158/31, Measuring 1200.Sqf Nandi Kalapavruksha Garden Mahappanahalli Sarjapura Hobli Sy No 43 Bangalore Karnataka 562125 (Ref. Lan No. LHBWQ00001419625) Bounded By- North: Site No. 32,south: Site No. 30, East: Panchyath Road,west: Property Belongs To Geetha L. Date of Possession **12-Jun-24**	18-03-2024 Rs. 120127.8	Bangalore-Marathahalli-B

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: 18.06.2024 | Place : Bangalore-Marathahalli — Authorised Officer, ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform all and whomsoever it may concern that my client - Banks / Financial Insitutions is/are considering to sanction loan to the Loan Applicant/s by accepting the schedule property, as collateral security. The schedule property presently belongs to Sri K B Shadakshara Swamy S/o late Sri K P Basappa, Aged about 59 Years, residing at No.225, 1st B Main Road, 6th Cross, Shivanagara, Rajajinagar, Bangalore - 560 010.

If any other person/s / authorities has/have any manner of right, title, interest, demand, claim, charge or lien over the schedule property, they are hereby requested to file their objections to the mortgage of the said schedule property to the Financial Institutions / Banks and shall inform/object the same in writing along with the photocopies of the documents relied for such claim/objeclions, through the registered post with acknowledgment due to the undersigned **within 10 days** from the date of publication of this notice.

If no valid claim/objection is received by the undersigned as aforesaid, my client Banks / Financial Institutions shall proceed to accept the schedule property as collateral security and create mortgage for having sanctioned the loan to the Loan Applicant, deeming that no one else has/have any manner of right or claim or interest whatsoever over the schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece & parcel of the immoveable property bearing Municipal No.17/2 (PID No.20-7-17/2), formed in Sy. No.29/7, measuring East to West 28 ft. and North to South 48 ft., totally measuring 1344 sq. ft., situated at 2nd Main Road. Shivanagar, Bangalore and bounded on the:

East by : Property belongs to KS Devikarani & her children, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Road, **South by :** Private Property.

RAGHAVENDRA P HOGADE, ADVOCATE No.186/8, 1st Floor, 'ABHISHEK COMPLEX' Sinir Park Road, Behind Nataraj Theatre Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Mrs. CHITRALEKHA RAMAKRISHNAN and Mr. SRIDHAR ADHINARAYANAN,** have lost SALE DEED bearing No. BGR-1-2868-2009-10, of Book-I, Stored in CD No. BGRD30, dated: 11-12-2009, registered at the office of the sub registrar Begur, Bangalore and connected GPA executed by them in favour of **Mrs. SASIREKHA SHANMUGAM,** for registration above flat in their names Pertaining to the schedule property. Police lost report is also filed.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Flat bearing No. 708, H Type, Eighth Floor, **Divya Jyothi Royal Heights Apartments,** buildup are of 1615 Sq.ft, carpet area of 1325 Sq.ft., and Plinth Area of 1486 Sq.ft., and 680 Sq.ft., of undivided share and interest in the land comprised in Schedule A Property along with one covered car parking space situated at **Sy. No. 155/1A1, Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South, Bangalore** and bounded on, **East by:** Road and Singasandra Gadi and remaining Portion of the same land in Sy. No. 155/1A1, **West by:** Lands in Sy. No. 156/1, **North by:** Remaining Portion of the same land in Sy. no. 155/1A1 belonging to K. Ramamurthy, **South by:** Road and also the remaining portion of lands in Sy. No. 155/1A2.

Any person having any right over above flat or in possession of the document, may lodge or return the same to the under signed ***within 15 days*** from today, failing which my clients will go ahead with transaction.

Sd/-

K.V. MANI, *B.A. LL.B.,*
Advocate & Notary,
23/1, Hosur Road, Adugodi,
Bengaluru-560 030.
Mob: +91 7676959289 +91 8073612668.
Place:- Bengaluru Date:- 17/06/2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our clients have negotiated with **Sri. Murugesh,** S/o Kannan, residing at Site. No.4. Khata No.42/6, Near Kannuramma Temple, Lottegollahalli, Nagashettyhalli, Bengaluru-560 094, for the purchase of residential property bearing Portion of Site.No.4. Khata No.42/6 Near Kannuramma Temple, Lottegollahalli, Nagashettyhalli, (Kasaba 2) Bengaluru 560094, measuring Northern Side 45 feet, Southern Side 42 feet, and totally North to South 22 ½ (Twenty Two and Half) feet Totally measuring 979 Sq.Ft, together with residential house constructed thereon and bounded on : **East by:** Road, **West by:** Yellappa's Property, **North by:** Portion of Site No.4&5 (Selvaraj Property), **South by:** Portion of Site No.3.

Any person/s having/asserting any right, title or interest/claims or intending to oppose the purchase in any manner may file their written objections to undersigned **within Seven days** from the date of publication of the notice hereof with documentary proof where after no such claims will be entertained, and our client will proceed with the purchase of the said Property.

Sd/- **N. BHARGAV**, Advocate
GOGI and GOGI, Advocates
Off: No.502, 4th Cross, 3rd Block, RMV 2nd Stage (Near ISRO H.O.), Bangalore-560094.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are hereby notified that my client is proposing to develop and sell the property described in the Schedule herein on Joint Development basis with its owners **Sri. Srinivas, Sri. Thilak, 3. Smt. Asharani, Smt. Mamatha, Smt. Leela and Smt. Sheela.**

Any person or persons objecting for the proposed development and sale or ascertaining any right, title, Interest or claim /charge/lien over the Schedule Property or any part thereof, and in any manner whatsoever against the Schedule Property based on the documents pertaining to the Schedule Property or otherwise has any lawful objection for the development of the Schedule Property, should write to the undersigned within **Seven Days** from the date of issuance of this notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and ascertaining their rights with regard to the Schedule Property or any part thereof and objections and/or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my client and my client will proceed to develop and sell the below mentioned property by entering into Joint Development Agreement with the owners as if there are no claimants/objections with regard to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE agricultural land bearing **Sy.No.228** (old Sy.No.128) measuring 2 Acres, Situated at **Mandur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District** and bounded on the:

East by : Road leading to Budigere Village;
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.191;
North by : Land bearing Sy.No.128 and Sy.No.127;
South by : Land bearing Sy.No.228 belongs to New Baldwin International School.

ROOPA SHETTY, Advocate
Lex Situs, No.810, 'BILWAPRIYA PLATINA', 2nd Floor, 27th Main Road, HSR Layout, Sector 1, Bangalore - 560102.
Ph: 080-22583563, 080-25723339, 9902026199; Email:info@lexsitus.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client MR. SHRINIVAS CHEBBI, Aged about 58years, Residing at G-104, ESTEEM ROYAL, Nirguna Mandir Layout S.T. BED Srinivagilu Bangalore South -560047. My client is the absolute owner of the property bearing Flat No. F-1, in the FIRST Floor having 920sq feet Super built up area along with 1/12th UDS, in the Property bearing plot No.9 and 11 and Khatha No.2952/3293 and 2952/3295, Situated at Nagarabhavi Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, and bounded on:

East by : By plot No.20 and 21, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Plot No.7, **South by :** Private Property.

My Client had lost the Sale deed during the transit while visiting the Bank loan purpose. Inspite of several efforts the Original Sale deed bearing document No.4278/1995-96, Volume No.5460, Pages 95-96 dated 18.07.1995, in the Office of the Sub-Registrar Bangalore North Taluk has not found and he lodged the police complaint through Online dated 17.06.2024 Vide No.1102856/2024.

Any Person/Firm/institution/Company having any claim or right in respect of the said property by way of sale agreement, Mortgage, lease, lien, gift possession, legal heirs partners or any kind of encumbrance whomsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to under signed **within Seven (7) days** from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share of Claim, if any with all supporting documents failing which the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim and the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated as waived and not binding on our clients. And if anyone found the same kindly contact the below address

PREMA B DUBALE
RBK legal I Advocate & Solicitors
Sampoorna chambers, 4th Floor, Vasavi Temple Road V.V. PURAM, Bangalore-560004.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mr.VASU.B, aged about 35 years, S/o Ashok Naidu, No.2-42, Kottha Venkatapuram, Gangadhara Nellore, Chittoor District, A.P., Pin:517125, intends to enter into a Development Agreement to jointly develop the Schedule Property more fully described in the Schedule hereunder with its owner Mr.THANGUDU SURESH, aged about 49 years, S/o T.Vishwanatham, Main Road, Pathapatnam-532213, Srikakulam District, A.P.,

Any person/s or Banks/financial institutions having or claiming any manner of right, title, lien, charge or interest or objection into or upon the Schedule Property may intimate the same in writing supported by documentary evidence to the under signed within TEN (10) days from this date, failing which my client will proceed with the transaction and will enter into a Joint Development Agreement in respect of the Schedule Property and will obtain a General Power of Attorney to sell their share of Apartments and it will be deemed NO valid claims are subsisting against the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the vacant residential site bearing BBMP Katha **No.448/433/421/67/5,68/2-122**, Site No.122, old Katha No.304, formed out of Converted land bearing Sy.Nos.67/5 & 68/2, situated at SINGASANDRA Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently within the limits of BBMP Ward No.191-Singasandra, measuring East to West: (61+64)/2 feet and North to South:40 Feet, in all measuring 2500 Square Feet, the lands were converted by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, vide O.M.No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S)37/1991-92, Dt:8/7/1991 and bounded on the:

East by : Road
West by : Private Property
North by : Site No.121
South by : Site No.123

A.VIJAYA SARADHY, Advocate
No.652, 11th Main, Esteem Kanaka Plaza, Opp., Vijaya PU College, Jayanagar 4th Block, Bengaluru-560 011.
Mobile: 9341258884

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Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER		FOREX	
181.87	Sensex	76,992.77	₹220	24 carat (10 gm)	₹72,480	1 kg	₹91,000	Dollar	83.53
66.70	Nifty	23,465.60	₹200	22 carat (10 gm)	₹66,450	10 gm	₹910	Euro	89.47

Air India admits presence of blade in passenger's meal

ENS @ New Delhi, Bengaluru

IN the ongoing long list of pitiable services offered by Air India, the airline has now admitted the presence of a "foreign object", believed to be a metal blade, in a meal that was served to a passenger last week.

Mathures Paul, a journalist, on June 10 had written on X that a metal piece that looked like a blade was hiding in his in-flight meal from Bengaluru to San Francisco. He wrote, "I got a feel of it only after chewing the grub for a few seconds. Thankfully, no harm was done... What if the metal piece was in food served to a child?"

The incident occurred on board flight AI 175 on June 9, after it took off by 1.50 pm.

Paul on Sunday added that the stewardess apologised for exactly three seconds and came back with a bowl of chickpeas. He also alleged that a few days later, the airline mailed to say he could take a business class trip anywhere in the next year. "That is a bribe and I don't accept it," he said.

In its response, Air India claimed that the blade was part of a vegetable chopping machine used by its catering vendor. "We have worked with our catering partner to strengthen measures to prevent any recurrence, including more frequent checking of the processor especially after chopping of any hard vegetable. Air India has engaged with the affected customer and deeply apologises for this experience," said Rajesh Dogra, Chief Customer Experience Officer, Air India.

Also apologising for the unfortunate incident, a TajSATS spokesperson said, "We have strengthened our processes of comprehensive inspection and preventive maintenance of all our production equipment."

The metal blade seen in the meal served to a passenger on board AI 175

A source told *TNIE*, "This poses a potential risk to all passengers on board. A sharp metal object being found inside a flight can be misused in any manner if it falls into the wrong hands. This calls for a deeper probe."

Earlier on Saturday, Vineeth K, a business-class passenger of the airline's New Delhi-Newark flight had alleged that he was served "uncooked" food by the airline and his luggage was broken. His post detailed a series of issues that turned his journey into a 'nightmare'.

"BAD FOOD, WORN OUT , DIRTY SEAT COVERS, NON WORKING TV for Rs.500000 (round trip), Damaged my luggage," he wrote on X. The Tata Group took over Air India in January 2022. Since then it has spoken about major revamping multiple times to turn the airline into a world-class product. However, more than applause, it has faced the ire of passengers over below-par service.

The DGCA recently pulled up Air India for "repeated incidences of passengers being put to discomfort".

The DGCA had issued a show-cause to the airline after passengers suffered from insufficient cabin cooling on two of its recent flights that were inordinately delayed.

FPIs turn cautious, pull out ₹37K cr in FY25

High valuations and uncertainty surrounding upcoming budget provide little incentive for FPIs to invest in Indian mkt

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

AFTER a massive inflow of over ₹2 lakh crore in the financial year 2023-24, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) have turned cautious on the Indian equity market in FY25 owing to its premium valuation and a not-so-desired general election result.

The National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) data shows FPIs have pulled out over ₹37,000 crore in the first two-and-a-half months of FY25. During this period, domestic equity market benchmarks - BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty - have gained over 4% each.

As per Sunil Damania, Chief investment officer at MojoPMS, the valuation of Indian markets is high, with the trailing twelve-month (TTM) price-to-earnings (PE) ratio exceeding 25x and a market capitalisation-to-GDP ratio of 140%. "Such high valuations provide little incentive for FPIs to invest. There is also uncertainty surrounding the upcoming budget... As a result, FPIs are waiting to see until the budget is presented," said Damamia.

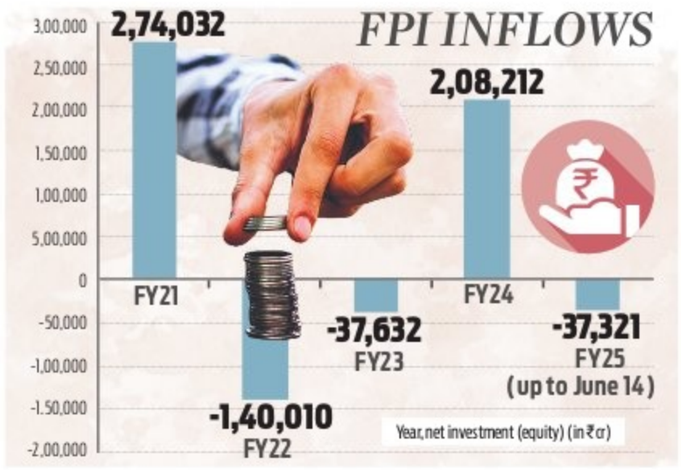
Manoj Purohit, Partner and leader - of FS Tax, Tax and Regulatory Services, BDO India feels for global investors, the formation of a coalition government is a concern as they believe it could impact the pace of India's growth story. Purohit said on the macro front, there are multiple triggers that have made FPIs shift their gears temporarily to other markets. "High yielding rates of bonds in the US, deferment of US Fed interest rate cuts, better-than-expected performance of Chinese stocks coupled with the ongoing geopolitical conflicts in the Middle East has made FPIs to divert from the Indian market," he added.

FPI holdings in Indian equities (in total m-cap) came down to 16.3% at the end of January 2024, which is a decadal low, from 16.6% as of November 2023. While FPIs still maintain a significant weight, the emergence of retail investors in the stock market has played a crucial role in counterbalancing the impact of FPI outflows.

Damania said FPIs are redirecting their investments towards China and Taiwan as these markets have seen major inflows due to their relatively low valuations and the prospects of economic reforms that could boost their economies.

Purohit believes that with the recent development and stability, the confidence of FPIs that India will continue the growth momentum has instilled back a positive framework and FPIs would return to India with numbers in green. FPIs made a strong comeback with a net inflow of ₹11,730 crore in the week ending June. This contrasts sharply with the net outflow of ₹14,794 crore recorded in the preceding week from June 3-7.

"After the roller coaster ride in the first week of June, stability has returned to the market as indicated by the sharp fall in India VIX from 27 on June 4 to 12.82 on June 14. This fall in India VIX indicates the return of stability and a likely consolidation phase in the market...The resilience of the market and eagerness of retail investors to buy every dip will force FPIs to reduce their selling which was sustained in May," said V K Vijayakumar, chief investment strategist, Geojit Financial Services.



Hyundai avails ₹1,200 cr tax exemptions in FY23

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

HYUNDAI Motors India, which is looking to raise ₹25,000 crore through public issue of shares, has availed tax exemptions and government incentives worth ₹886 crore in the first nine months of 2023-24, the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) of the company showed. In the previous financial year, the company had availed ₹1,205 crore worth of those incentives.

These incentives include electricity tax exemptions, investment promotion subsidies in the form of state GST reimbursements, fiscal incentives such as a central sales tax (CST) soft loan at a concessional rate of interest; clean energy vehicle (CEV) subsidy; and interest free deferred sales tax.

However, the largest part of the exemptions availed was accounted for by duty drawbacks at ₹385 crore, and duty remission in lieu of exports at ₹130 crore. Duty drawback is the export benefit given to rebate the custom duties charged on imported materials, which are used for manufacture of exported goods.

The company discloses in the DRHP that the unavailability, reduction or elimination of government incentives could have a material adverse effect on our business, prospects, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

The company entered into an arrangement with the Tamil Nadu government in January 2024 whereby it may receive incentives and subsidies from the government subject to it making a minimum investment in fixed assets within a specific period for the development of EV manufacturing infrastructure in the state.

Similarly, for the Talegaon plant, it has received offer letters from Maharashtra government under which it is required to make a minimum investment in fixed assets within a specific period for availing certain incentives including but not limited to electricity duty exemption, industrial promotion subsidy and stamp duty exemption. The company manufactures all its passenger vehicles and parts including engines and transmissions only at the Chennai manufacturing plant.

It acquired the Talegaon plant from General Motors India on December 28, 2023, which is under redevelopment and is expected to be operational in phases – with the first phase to be operational by the second half of FY26. It is eligible for refund of partial Stamp Duty, paid on acquisition of the new plant at Talegaon.

VIRTUAL TWIN

Cos allocate less than 30% of tech spends to digital

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Bengaluru

IN India, about 57% of Indian enterprises allocate less than 30% of technology spending to digital spend, says a report released by Dassault Systemes and nasscom.

The report on adoption and impact of virtual twin technology was released on Monday in Bengaluru. Digital twins are computer-based models of a physical product, process or system. It can be at a component level, or for a product, a process, or a complete system of operations. These are a digital version of physical assets created using software, IT-OT hardware, and connectivity to manage asset through stages of its lifecycle.

"Virtual twin tech is poised at the brink of transformative potential, marked by a sharp increase in awareness and early adoptions since the pandemic. Though full-scale implementations and dedicated budgets remain limited, focus on optimising assets and processes opens up expansive opportunities," said Sangeeta Gupta, senior Vice-President & chief strategy officer at Nasscom.

She added that overcoming hurdles in software procurement, enhancing top-level commitment and ecosystem synergies can unlock groundbreaking innovations, driving industries toward a more efficient and digitally integrated future. The report further said that over 50% of the enterprises also indicate patchy digitalisation, with only the key functions digitalised, but in silos, thereby limiting effective RoI realisation. Also, less than one in five companies have put in place advanced process automation, the majority have implemented RPA (robotic process automation).

About 63% of Indian companies have deployed virtual twins at the product or process level, majority of these, 40% at the product level.

'Need to reassess concession on gold, silver imports under FTA with UAE'

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

INDIA needs to reassess tariff concession on gold and silver imports from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) under its India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), as the massive surge in imports is adversely impacting current account deficit of the country, according to a recent report by Delhi-based think tank GTRI.

The report highlighted concerns about revenue loss and trade imbalances resulting from the current tariff differentials. India's total imports from the UAE fell by 9.8% from $53.2 billion in FY23 to $48.0 billion in FY24.

However, imports of gold and silver saw a significant increase of 210%, rising from $3.5 billion to $10.7 billion during the same period.

On the other hand, imports of all other products declined by 25%, dropping from $49.7 billion in FY2023 to $37.3 billion in FY2024.

TAKING THE SHINE OFF

Particulars	2023-24	2022-23	% change
Gold and silver imports from UAE ($ mn)	10,741	3089	248
Gold and silver Exprorts to UAE ($ Mn)	5,659	115	4,821
Total Imports from UAE ($ mn)	48,018.10	53,231.55	-10
Tota Exports to UAE ($ mn)	35,625.13	31,608.79	13

Losing revenue from current tariff differentials

Note: Gold and silver imports/exports also include gold and other precious metal jewellery

India allows 7% tariffs concessions on import of unlimited quantities of silver and a 1% tariff concession on 160 metric tons of gold. CEPA was signed in February 2022 and implemented in May 2022.

"Increased imports contribute to a higher current account deficit. Since gold and silver act more like financial instruments than regular trade items, India should avoid including them in any Free Trade Agreement (FTA). If necessary, the decision should be made by the RBI, not by the Department of Commerce," the report said.

GTRI's other recommendations include potentially revising duty rates under the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and implementing yearly import quotas for silver.

EXPRESS READ

ixigo shares to get listed on exchanges today

NEW DELHI: Shares of Le Travenues Technology, which operates the travel booking platform ixigo, will make its stock market debut on Tuesday after garnering massive subscriptions for its initial public offering last week. The initial public offering of Le Travenues Technology got subscribed 98.10 times on the closing day of the subscription on Wednesday last week. Equity markets were closed on Monday on account of Eid-ul-Adha. *ENS*

Durlax Top Surface to raise ₹40.80 cr via IPO

BENGALURU: Solid surface manufacturer Durlax Top Surface plans to raise around Rs 40.80 crore through its IPO which will open for subscription on June 19, a statement said on Monday. The company, which has been involved in the business of solid surface for over a decade, has received approval to launch its public issue on the NSE Emerge Platform of the National Stock Exchange, Durlax Top Surface said in the statement. *ENS*

Som Distilleries blames contractor for child labour fiasco, ends vendor's services

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

MIRED in controversy over the use of child labours in one of its plants, New Delhi-based Som Distilleries and Breweries has come out in defence saying that the issue is not related to its associate private limited company which deals primarily in country liquor, and is not a listed entity as reported by some sections of the media.

The ₹2,500 crore market cap company in an exchange filing clarified that labour for the associate company is supplied by contractors, and that it could be the fault of the contractors who may not have got proper age verification done of the workers being allowed to work at that company.

"The company has extended full cooperation to the authorities regarding the issue, and has terminated the services of the vendor through the directors of that company. We want to assure you that all the plants of our company are fully compliant with all applicable laws and have all the necessary permissions," the company said in the regulatory filing.

The National Commission for Protection Of Child Rights (NCPCR) on Sunday said it found over 50 children including 20 girls working in its Madhya Pradesh plant. A case under juvenile justice and bonded labour laws was filed on Sunday against the company. Som Distilleries and Breweries manufacture Hunter and Woodpecker brands of Beer, and Pentagon and Milestone Blue whiskey. It sold 24 lakh cases of beer and over 10 lakh cases of IMFL in FY24.

FISME urges overhaul of NPA classification norms

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

IN a recent presentation to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) on Budget, the Federation of Indian Micro and Small & Medium Enterprises (FISME) highlighted concerns pertaining to the mechanism for non-performing assets (NPA) classification, which has proven to be detrimental to MSMEs recovering from the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to it, the current policy by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on NPA classification has been criticised for its stringent criteria, leading to false alarms and forced closures of MSMEs.

According to the policy, banks are required to put accounts with exposure of ₹5 cr (fund plus non fund) into three categories: SMA-0 (if account showed signs of incipient stress even if principal/ interest not overdue for more than 30 days); SMA-1 (if principal/ interest payment overdue for 31-60 days) and SMA-2(If principal/ interest payment overdue for 61-180 days). "A red flag is raised even if principal/ interest payments get delayed by 30 days. Once an account figures in SMA, the account becomes a pariah both inside as well as outside the bank bringing even the normal banking operations to a grinding halt. This is creating false alarms and even resulting into forced closure," FISME highlighted in its presentation.

FISME emphasised the need for a review of the SMA framework and advocated for a liberal restructuring option for MSMEs affected by long Covid and geopolitical turmoil.

FISME highlighted challenges related to Bank Loan Ratings (BLR) for MSMEs, emphasizing the adverse impact of third-party ratings on the sector.

The organisation called for the abolishment of Bank Loan Ratings, citing the limitations it imposes on the growth potential of small and medium enterprises by hindering their ability to raise capital for expansion. If the exposure of banks to an MSME account is beyond a threshold, banks insist on getting a third-party rating known as bank loan rating (BLR) from RBI/SEBI approved rating agencies.

"The trigger, according to Reserve Bank of India (RBI), was Basel-II norms but had clarified to FISME that it was not mandatory and was an advisory for banks to use external rating agencies till they have capacity to develop their own risk assessment models. The practice continues," FISME stated.

The problem is that these agencies are using the same methods for both big and small businesses, which isn't working well for small businesses. It said because of this practice, small businesses are getting low ratings, which leads to them having to pay higher interest rates and provide more collateral to get loans.

Job market to witness promising growth in July-December 2024, say experts

UMA KANNAN @ Bengaluru

FOR the quarter beginning July 2024, the job market across sectors such as BFSI, manufacturing, construction and retail will see an uptick in employability, according to experts.

With increased digital transformation, there is a steady demand for roles in digital banking, fintech and insurance and there is an expected employability increase of about 8-10%, said Aditya Narayan Mishra, MD and CEO of CIEL HR Services. He added that the manufacturing sector is witnessing a revival, supported by enhanced domestic production capabilities, leading to anticipated growth of around 6-8%.

"The July -December period

of last year saw major growth in talent demand in non-tech sectors. The projection for the current year is for demand to spike a little later from September. Sectors like retail, travel, hospitality, consumer services, media & advertising, logistics & supply chain are among the non-tech sectors to look out for in the latter half of the year," said Anil Ethanur, co-founder of staffing firm Xpheno.

As per him, freshers' intake remains muted, and projections are for a low-to-moderate growth in intake compared to the last fiscal. "The tech sector continues to put out its hiring forecasts and some positive signs for freshers hiring are visible. Other sectors like BFSI, manufacturing, consulting, hospitality, retail & consumer services show promise for fresher intake. However, the relative volume of intake of these sectors will remain dwarfed compared to tech sector's typical fresher intake during stable and buoyant years," Ethanur added.

Sabalenka rules herself out of Paris Oly

Australian Open champion Aryna Sabalenka ruled herself out of the Olympic Games in Paris on Monday. The world No 3 from Belarus said she preferred to take a rest and get ready for the hard-court season. "I prefer to have a little rest to make sure physically and health-wise I'm ready for the hard courts," Sabalenka said in Berlin.

Trouble at top continues for Pak

With early exit from the WC, the 2022 runners-up have some tough decisions to make

GOMESH S @ Chennai

"...WE did not lose this because of one person. We are losing as a team. I am not saying this because of one person. You are pointing out that because of the captain, I cannot play in every player's place." The frustration of Pakistan captain Babar Azam was visible in his voice on Sunday afternoon in Lauderhill, Florida.

After all, it was the third question about his captaincy since the 15-minute long post-match press conference began after Pakistan's last T20 World Cup game. They had just come off the field with a win against Ireland, not an easy one, but that was nowhere closer to being the talking point. The 2022 T20 WC runners-up had been eliminated in the group stages with just two wins to show and Babar was not going to let off that easily.

There was a similar theme to every question that followed. Captaincy, his responsibility, the batters not being proactive, the mindset, whether he will resign, on the selection committee and cricketing board back home, they kept coming. And Babar, to a large extent, was repeating the same things - how it is about the team, about building partnerships, about playing together as a group, applying themselves and not about just one individual. It was only when a question was asked about the pitches, Babar was happy to answer it. He said the pitches should have been better and the weather was bad before adding, "This tournament is supporting the bowlers. The wicket should have been better."

Babar has some ground there to stand, but barely. As much as there have been questions about the New York pitch and weather in Florida, it is in no way the key reason behind Pakistan not advancing to their Super 8s. They fielded and bowled badly to lose against USA from a winning position, couldn't apply themselves against India and lost their first two games. By that time, their campaign was all but done. From Babar's rotation of bowlers, and batting order to the regular issues that plague Pakistan (fielding, dressing room issues and so on) there are a 'n' number of reasons why they were not able to put out their best.

However, the most important of them all lie at the top of the batting-order — Babar and his partner Mohammad Rizwan. The duo have the most prolific partnership in all T20Is, but that might not amount to much when it comes to results, especially in the last year and a half. Since the beginning of 2023, Babar has a powerplay strike rate of 117.57. His partner Rizwan goes at 132.35 in the same phase before slowing down to 117.76 SR in the middle-overs. In overs 7-16, Babar moves up to 142.15 SR, contrasting to how Rizwan operates. Both the openers have a dot ball percentage well over 40 in the powerplay — Babar 47.7 % and Rizwan 44.5 %. This essentially means, Pakistan would probably have an average of 16 dot balls in the powerplay should both Babar and Rizwan bat through the powerplay.

As much as it is right to say a team cannot lose because of one person, when they have two openers who are in a bubble and then are followed by two more (Saim Ayyub and Fakhar Zaman make up the top four with Babar occasionally batting at No 3 in this WC), it leaves the rest too much to catch up. In this T20 WC, Babar and Rizwan are in the top ten run-scorers (until the Sri Lanka versus Netherlands game). And coincidentally, they are the only two batters to have a strike rate less than 120 — Babar 101.66, Rizwan 90.9. Against Ireland on Sunday, Babar came in at No 3, batted till the end, and finished with an unbeaten 34-ball 32 in a chase of 107. If not for Shaheen Shah Afridi's unbeaten 13 off five balls, anything could have happened in the end.

If the batting is one issue, the administrative mess that is PCB has been the Achille's heel. They brought back Babar as captain after he resigned from all-formats in a span of few months, leaving the team and Afridi, who was the named successor, in a pickle. For now, let's skip that and just look at numbers. Do Babar, who has not hit a single six in the first six overs of three T20 WCs, and Rizwan deserve a place in a T20I XI? The answer is no. Will Pakistan take that call and move forward? Well, as Babar said on Sunday, "The decision is of the PCB."

Babar Azam (L) & Mohammad Rizwan have been counterproductive for Pakistan | AP

ICC MEN'S T20 WORLD CUP WEST INDIES & USA 2024 JUNE 1-29 — AMERICAN EXPEDITION

T20I record since 2023

Phase		Babar	Rizwan
Overs 1-6	AVG	37.6	60
	SR	117.57	132.35
	Dot %	47.7	44.5
Overs 7-16	AVG	43.5	47.5
	SR	142.15	117.76
	Dot %	26.1	27.3
Overs 17-20	AVG	27	-
	SR	216	132
	Dot %	16	16

T20 WC 2024 NUMBERS*

Player	Inn	Runs	Avg	SR
Babar	4	122	40.66	101.66
Rizwan	4	110	36.66	90.9

*- Till the end of SL vs NED

2 Among the top-ten run-scorers (till SL vs NED), only Babar and Rizwan have a SR less than 120

Match-fixing allegations to dreaming again: Romania's rise

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

ONE of the geopolitical quirks of Group E is the presence of multiple countries which once called the Soviet Bloc home. Romania, Slovakia (as part of Czechoslovakia) and Ukraine (as part of USSR). At this event, as many as 11 nations once belonged to that Bloc, a record number of nations since the event expanded to 24 in 2016.

At a sun-kissed Allianz Arena in Munich, Ukraine were expected to do the majority of the running. A tournament team with some highly talented players, a nation torn by the effects of war were expected to reach the next round of the competition from the Group. Georgiy Sudakov, 21, is expected to have a few suitors this Summer. Andriy Lunin starred for Real Madrid as he helped them to a double. Artem Dovbyk won the Golden Boot for Girona in La Liga. Those expectations weren't out of place.

Yet, Romania, who had only three points and as many goals over two Euros and six matches since 2004, stuck to their gameplan, executed it and doubled their points tally and goals in a remarkable display of gumption and tightrope skill. Ukraine had most of the possession (71%), passed the ball more effectively (516 to Romania's 171) and had the more bankable players but they were no match. By the time the final whistle cut through the Stadium, the agony and the ecstacy of the two groups of players couldn't have been starker.

While Ukraine, ranked 22nd, 24 rungs above Romania, will wonder what hit them. While it's not really relevant to talk about the generational 1994 Romania side (comprising of Gheorghe Hagi, Florin Raducioiu, Dan Petrescu had reached the last eight of that World Cup), there are clear and visible links between that team and the one currently in Germany.

For one, Edward Iordanescu is the coach of the current generation. Anghel, Edward's father, was in charge of that team. Just after the hour mark, Ianis, Gheorghe's son, came on as a substitute. Like in the 90s, there is a level of talent in Romania. At the Under-21 Euros in 2019, they reached the last four. Multiple members of that squad are part of the contingent in Germany, including Dennis Man, Ianis, George Puscas, Adrian Rus and Darius Olaru. Against Ukraine, Man ran the show with his tireless running; he may have played only 62 minutes but had already had two assists to his name.

Even as Romania converted two long-range efforts, Edward was a sight to behold in the dugout. Some of this new found hope can be traced back to Edward's vision. He is hopeful of bringing back the champagne days for a country whose domestic football scene has directly been linked to crime and match-fixing for a major part of the first two decades of this century.

In 2016, the Federation had handed out bans to multiple coaches and more than a dozen players of a second division club because of allegations of match-fixing. Eight years before that, the country's anti-corruption prosecuting office (DNA) began an investigation. "DNA," Reuters wrote at the time, "started criminal investigations on charges of fraud, tax evasion and money laundering against prominent officials of Dinamo and Rapid Bucharest, Otelul Gulati and Gloria Bistrita, agents Gheorghe Popescu, Victor and Ioan Becali and lawyer Sica Puscoci."

But things may be taking a turn for the better. After more than 15 years of apathy, fans are seemingly coming back to stadia. The guardian noted that '...last season, more fans attended top-flight matches than at any point since 1994'.

If they can get one more win in this group, they will assure themselves of a first knockout appearance of a major event since the 2000 Euros. That, now, will be the next target.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Romanian players celebrate after beating Ukraine 3-0 on Monday | AFP

T20WC ROUND-UP

B'desh enter Super 8s

KINGSTOWN (ST VINCENT): Pacer Tanzim Hasan Sakib bowled an incredible 21 dot balls in his career-best figures of 4/7 as a determined Bangladesh team used all its reservoir of experience to beat a spirited Nepal by 21 runs ensuring a comfortable passage into the Super 8s. **Brief scores:** Bangladesh 106 in 19.3 ovs (Sompal Kami 2/10) **bt** Nepal 85 in 19.2 ovs (Tanzim 4/7, Shakib 2/9, Rahaman 3/7).

Sri Lanka beat Netherlands

GROS ISLET (ST LUCIA): Sri Lanka signed off from the T20 World Cup with an 83-run victory over the Netherlands. Kusal Mendis and Charith Asalanka scored 46 each to power Sri Lanka to 201/6. Lankan bowlers, led by Nuwan Thushara 3/24, then bowled out the Dutch for 118. **Brief scores:** SL 201/6 in 20 ovs (Mendis 46, Asalanka 46; Logan 2/45) **bt** NED 118 in 16.4 ovs (Levitt 31; Thushara 3/24).

Record spell from Ferguson

TAROUBA: New Zealand pacer Lockie Ferguson delivered the most economical spell in men's T20 World Cup history (3/0 in four overs) as Papua New Guinea were dismissed for 78 run in 19.2 overs. New Zealand chased the target in 12.2 overs. **Brief scores:** Papua New Guinea 78 in 19.4 ovs ovs (Lockie Ferguson 3/0) vs New Zealand 79/3 in 12.2 ovs (Conway 35).

Neeraj set for Paavo Nurmi challenge

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

WORLD and Olympic champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra will be back in action after a gap of over a month at the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku on Tuesday. He last competed at the Senior Federation Nationals Athletics Competition on May 15. Though he entered his name at the Ostrava Golden Spike meet in late May, he skipped the event because he felt uncomfortable with his adductor.

The 26-year-old would hope for a good throw before the Paris Olympics. Since he missed Ostrava and will not be competing at Kourtane, his performance in Paavo Nurmi will be crucial. The field too is quite heavy with top throwers lining up to test their skills. Anderson Peters of Grenada and Keshorn Walcott of Trinidad and Tobago would be Neeraj's rivals. However, it is local favourite Oliver Halendar he should worry about because he beat Neeraj despite throwing a mammoth 89.30m last year. It would also be fascinating to watch youn sensation Max Dehning.

Belgium's Romelu Lukaku reacts during the match against Slovakia on Monday. The forward had multiple misses and two disallowed goals | AFP

Profligate Belgium stunned by Slovakia

AGENCIES @ Frankfurt

SLOVAKIA caused the first upset at Euro 2024 as Ivan Schranz fired the underdogs to a 1-0 win against Belgium on Monday. Francesco Calzona's side are 45 spots below third-placed Belgium in FIFA's world rankings.

But they made a mockery of the supposed quality gap between the teams with a courageous performance in Frankfurt. Calzona, who also served as Napoli's interim boss in the second half of last season, had admitted he would be "delighted" with a draw. The Italian got more than he could have dreamed of as Schranz left Belgium reeling after ending his nine-game international goal drought.

Romelu Lukaku missed a host of chances for Belgium and had a late equaliser controversially disallowed by VAR.

It was a bitter loss for Belgium, who are in danger of once again failing to fulfil their potential at a major tournament.

Belgium's golden generation has lost much of its lustre since they crashed out of the 2022 World Cup in the group stage.

The Red Devils fell at the quarter-finals in the last two editions of the European Championship, making a third place finish at the 2018 World Cup the highwater mark of a talented but underachieving team once hailed as a potential dynasty.

Dominic Tedesco was appointed to replace Roberto Martinez in February 2023 and led Belgium on a 14-match unbeaten run heading into the Euros. Before what was billed as a last hurrah for Belgium's veteran stars, Kevin De Bruyne had insisted they were ready to do "something good" in Germany.

Bellingham gets England off to winning start

GELSENKIRCHEN: Jude Bellingham got England's Euro 2024 campaign off to a winning start but a 1-0 victory over Serbia in Gelsenkirchen failed to dispel doubts over the Three Lions' quest to become European champions for the first time.

EXPRESS READ

DeChambeau lifts second US Open title

PINEHURST (US): Bryson DeChambeau, needing to get up and down from a bunker at 18 to win, delivered one of his greatest shots Sunday and sank a tension-packed putt to win the US Open. DeChambeau, having already escaped disaster once at Pinehurst's final hole, blasted a 55-yard bunker shot to four feet and rolled in the clutch putt to capture his second US Open crown.

Nagal moves to 71, his career-best ranking

NEW DELHI: India's Sumit Nagal continued his ascent in the ATP singles chart, climbing to a career-high ranking of 71 on Monday. His previous best was 77 last week. The Olympic-bound Nagal jumped six places following his runner-up finish at the Perugia ATP Challenger tournament on Sunday. The 26-year-old, who will be the sole Indian in the men's singles event.

Aware of Utd's talks with others: Ten Hag

MANCHESTER: Erik ten Hag says he was aware that Manchester United had spoken to others before the Premier League club decided to stick with the Dutchman after a difficult season. Speaking on Dutch TV channel NOS, he said: "The club management came to me while I was on holiday in Ibiza. They suddenly showed up on my doorstep and told me they wanted to continue with me."

AIFF SACKS HEAD COACH IGOR STIMAC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

DAYS after India lost to Qatar in their last World Cup qualifier, their head coach Igor Stimac has been sacked. The All India Football Federation has taken the decision after a virtual meeting on Sunday. The AIFF statement said that the decision was taken because of India's disappointing World Cup qualification campaign.

India crashed out of the race to qualify after finishing third in their group after Kuwait beat Afghanistan to finish second. What really dashed India's hope was a loss against Afghanistan at home. The team failed to beat Kuwait as well. Stimac was given an extension last month but he did not help the team improve. "Noting the disappointing outcome of the Senior Men's National Team's FIFA World Cup 2026 qualification campaign, the members unanimously agreed that a new Head Coach would be best placed to take the team forward," the AIFF said in a statement. "A notice of termination has been issued to Mr. Stimac by the AIFF Secretariat, and he stands relieved of his obligations with immediate effect." Stimac was appointed the coach in 2019 after Stephen Constantine.

SHOOTING

Olympic aspirant Ganemat misses out on bonus points

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

GANEMAT Sekhon had done all the heavy lifting in the qualification stage, held across three days (starting June 16). In a 52-woman field, she had dug deep to gradually climb the ladder and had eventually survived a shoot-off to become one of the six shooters to reach the final in the ISSF World Cup in Lonato del Garda (Italy), thereby being in contention for a medal.

In the 60-shot final, which transpired after the last round of the aforementioned qualification stage, the 23-year-old had four green dots (indicating a hit). But the cookie crumbled soon. Four misses in the following 10 shots meant her fate was more or less sealed. Despite some greens in the following shots, she became the first finalist to be eliminated.

Given the National Rifle Association of India, the governing body of the sport in the country, is set to announce the shotgun squad for the Paris Olympics in a day or two, Ganemat is likely to be gutted having missed out on a chance to bolster her chance of inclusion. As per NRAI selection policy, shooters are entitled to bonus points (six points for gold, four for silver and two for bronze) for top-three finish in World Cups (2023/24). India have two quotas in women's skeet and Raiza Dhillon, Maheshwari Chauhan (both quota winners) are the

frontrunners to secure a ticket for Paris. "It's interesting (Ganemat reaching the final). All the coaches/officials will sit and assess their performances and announce a team in a day or two," a NRAI official said, after Ganemat reached the final. As per the provisional ranking published by NRAI on March 12, Raiza is on top while Ganemat is second. Maheshwari is third. But it should be noted that this was before the latter had added the second quota for India. Quota earners are entitled to bonus points, according to the NRAI selection policy. The ranking was published after the Olympic selection trials, which is the main basis of criteria for selection as per NRAI policy. All their individual performances since the 2022 World Championships will be taken into consideration. The official said that Maheshwari is No 1 as of now.

The other event that the selectors would have taken a detailed look at is the men's trap event. Bhowneesh Mendiratta, who earned the quota for the country, narrowly missed out on a medal just a few days ago.

Women's trap to get quota?

Meanwhile, it'll also be interesting to see if India will get a chance to swap an unused Olympic quota (from women's pistol discipline) to women's trap, where the country currently has one quota. Quota exchange, if permitted, can only be done in the same gender. "According to the rules (set in the "Qualification System" for Paris 2024) an NOC may request to change a maximum of one (1) Quota Place from one event to another event within the same gender. So YES, India can request a change from a Rifle/Pistol event to a Shotgun event," the ISSF said, when queried about the same.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

RESULTS: SERBIA 0-1 ENGLAND; ROMANIA 3-0 UKRAINE

TODAY'S MATCHES

Portugal begin their campaign against Czech Republic in Leipzig on Tuesday with Ronaldo set to start and appear at a record-extending sixth Euros. Roberto Martinez's side are tipped to progress with ease from Group F, which also contains Turkey and Georgia.

Turkiye vs Georgia | 9.30 pm

Portugal vs Czechia | 12:30 am (Wednesday IST)

LIVE ON SONY SPORTS NETWORK

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that **SMT.K.C.VISHALAKSHI W/o.Nagaraja.K.B**, is the owner of immovable property mentioned in the schedule hereunder and she lost the original Sale Deed dated 15/12/2015 Document No.14286/2015-16, of Book-1, stored in C.D.No.403, executed by Mr.Khaleel Sab in favour of Sri.J.B.Chandrappa, SRO Davanagere, pertaining to the schedule property. In case anybody having any claims or in possession of the said document, shall inform the under singed and handover the same within SEVEN DAYS from the date of publication of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing Re-Sy.no.102/16, Eastern portion Block-2 measuring 8 guntas out of 2 acres, situated in Avaragolla Village, Kasaba Hobli, Davanagere Taluk, and bounded on the :

East by : land belongs to Sri.B.G.Vishwambara
West by : Remaining portion of land same land in Re-Sy.no.102/16,
North by : land belongs to Chandraiah,
South by : Road

N. JAGADEESH KUMAR, Advocate,
No.30/1, 2nd Floor, 7th Cross, Near NR Colony Bus Stand, Opp. Hotel Dwaraka,
Bangalore-560019. Cell # 9341261700

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that our clients propose to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from **Mr. B.S. KAVISH,** son of Mr. Shivalingappa, aged about 46 years, residing at No.72-15, 4th Cross, Azad Nagar, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru – 560 018, who has represented that he is the sole and absolute owner of the Schedule Property having acquired the same vide Sale Deed dated 10/12/2020.

Persons other than the owner objecting for the proposed purchase or asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned in writing only along with supporting documentary evidence within a ***period of Seven days*** from the date of this publication. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owner has any right, title, interest or claim/s in respect of the Schedule Property and our client would be at liberty to proceed with the purchase of the Schedule property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immoveable property bearing residential site No. 1329, situated at (Devarachikkanahalli Village, Sy. No. 40/1) 2nd Block, B.T.M. Layout 4th Stage, Bengaluru, now coming under BBMP Ward No. 193, Municipal No. 1329, BBMP Khatha No. 1329, situated **at BTM 4th Stage, Hulimavu, Gramantara, Bengaluru,** measuring **East to West: 9.14 Metres and North to South: 12.19 Metres totally measuring 111.42** Square Metres and bounded as follows: **East by:** Site No. 1330; **West by:** Site No. 1328; **North by:** Road; **South by:** Site No. 1345

Sd/-

Chambers of Rishi S. Chugh,
Advocate& Legal Consultant
No. 207, 2nd Floor, Ahuja Chamber, No. 1, Kumara Krupa Road, Madhavanagar, Bengaluru – 560 001
Ph: + 919900122923
Bengaluru Date: 18/06/2024
Email: rclegalsolutions@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General public that my client **Mrs. SUSHMA.G,** W/O. V GIRI PRASAD, intends to purchase Southern portion of Property bearing No.1417, 1st Main, 2nd Block, BSK 1st stage, Bengaluru-560050, PID No.53-138-4/1 & 53-138-4, Ward No.164, measuring East to West : 80 feet and North to South : 15 feet with residential house with building and bounded on the: **East by:** Mount Joy, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Northern Portion of Site No 1417 belonging to Giriyappa, **South by :** Site No.1416 from Mr.G.S.VENKATESH and Mrs.H.A. INDRA VENKATESH, R/a. No.769, 31st Cross, 26th Main, Poornapragna Nagar, Bengaluru-560061. Any person/s asserting any kind of right, title, interest or claims of any sort towards the Sale transaction may file their objections or claims with documentary proof thereof with the undersigned within **(7) Seven days** from the date of this publication, failing which my client will proceed to complete the transaction without being liable for any claims put forth thereof.

RAJAGOPALA NAIDU
PRASHANT N RAJ, Advocates,
No.4, 'Krishnaraja' 4th Floor, 50 Feet Road, Hanumanthanagar,
Bengaluru - 560 019.

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಾದ **ಶ್ರೀ. ನಾಗೇಶ್ ಆರ್ ಗೌಡ ಬಿನ್ ಶ್ರೀ. ರಾಜಣ್ಣ**, 36 ವರ್ಷ, ವಾಸ: ನಂ.367, ಗಣೇಶ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನದ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ಮಂಜುನಾಥ ನಗರ, ನಾಗಸಂದ್ರ ಪೋಸ್ಟ್, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560073, ರವರು ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದು ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಸ್ವತ್ತಿನ ಮಾಲೀಕರಾದ **ಶ್ರೀ. ಅಬ್ದುಲ್ ಖಾದರ್ ಬಿನ್ ಅಬ್ದುಲ್ ಗಫಾರ್**, 64 ವರ್ಷ, ಮತ್ತು **ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ. ಫರ್ಹಾನ ತಬಸಮ್ ಶೇಕ್ ಕೋಂ ಶ್ರೀ. ಅಬ್ದುಲ್ ಖಾದರ್**, 50 ವರ್ಷ, ವಾಸ : ನಂ.20, 1ನೇ ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, ಸಿದ್ದಗಂಗಾ ಪ್ರೌಢ ಶಾಲೆ ಹತ್ತಿರ, ಬೆಲ್‌ಮಾರ್ ಲೇಔಟ್, ರುಕ್ಮಿಣಿನಗರ, ನಾಗಸಂದ್ರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560073, ಇವರಿಂದ ಖುದ್ದ ಕ್ರಯಕ್ಕೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸಿರುವುದು ಸರಿಯಷ್ಟೆ. ಆದಾಗಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಿಗೆ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ಸದರಿ ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಸ್ವತ್ತಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ತಂಟೆ ತಕರಾರುಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಾದ 7 ದಿನಗಳ ಒಳಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾದ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ನನ್ನಾಗಲೀ ಅಥವಾ ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರನ್ನಾಗಲೀ ಭೇಟಿಯಾಗತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಅನಂತರ ಬಂದಂತಹ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಂಟೆ ತಕರಾರುಗಳು ಊರ್ಜಿತವಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದಾಗಿ ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯ ಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

::ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ವಿವರ::

ರಾಮನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಮಾಗಡಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಕುದೂರು ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಕುದೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಂ. 40/4 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಖುಷ್ಕಿ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ 3.20.00 (ಮೂರು ಎಕರೆ ಇಪ್ಪತ್ತು ಗುಂಟೆ) ಜಮೀನಿನ ಪೈಕಿ "ಅ" ಖರಾಬು 00.07.00 (ಏಳು) ಗುಂಟೆ ಮತ್ತು "ಬ" ಖರಾಬು 00.09.00 (ಎಂಭತ್ತು) ಗುಂಟೆ ಜಾತಾ ಹಿಸ್ಸೆ 03.04.00 (ಮೂರು ಎಕರೆ ನಾಲ್ಕು ಗುಂಟೆ) ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣವುಳ್ಳ ಖುಷ್ಕಿ ಜಮೀನಿನಗೆ ಚಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ:- ಪೂರ್ವಕ್ಕೆ: ಕೆರೆ, ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ: ರಹೀಂ ಸಾಬ್ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ: ಮಾರೇಗೌಡ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು, ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ: ಪ್ಯಾರೇಜಾನ್ ರವರ ಜಮೀನು.

ಹಿ.ಆರ್.ಧನಂಜಯ, ವಕೀಲರು
ನಂ.120, "ಶ್ರೀ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ನಿಲಯ" 2 ನೇ 'ಎ' ಮುಖ್ಯರಸ್ತೆ, ಭೈರವೇಶ್ವರನಗರ, ಲಗ್ಗೆರೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 058.
ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ನಂ.92421 64578

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER - I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT-2)
4th Floor, Telephone House Building Rajbhavan Road Bangalore - 560001

Form No. 14 (See Regulation 33(2))
DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Sections 25 to 28 of the Recovery of Debts & Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rule 2 of Second Schedule to the Income Tax Act, 1961.

RC No. 416/2023 in OA No. 1099/2019
Karnataka Bank Limited V/s Sri Saajan Lathif & Others

To:
(CH) Karnataka Bank Limited, Wilson Garden, No. 279, 10th Cross, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 027. **... Certificate Holder**
VS
(CD 1) Sri Saajan Lathif, S/o. Sri Syed Mohammed, No. A 182, Shobha Mangolia Apartment, Next to IBM Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560 076.
(CD 2) Smt. Sonali K Poovaiah, W/o Sri P. B. Kuppananda, No. 102, Keerthi Manor, 1st Floor, B Block, 2GM Palya, New Thippasandra Main Road, Bangalore Karnataka - 560075. **... Certificate Debtors**

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT-2) in **OA /1099/2019** an amount of **Rs.3214282.00** (Rupees Thirty Two Lakhs Fourteen Thousands Two Hundred Eighty Two Only) along with pendentellite and future interest @ 15.20% compound Interest Montly w.e.f. **06/06/2019** till realization and costs of **Rs.35005** (Rupees Thirty Five Thousand Five Only) has become due against you Jointly and severally.
2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 and Rules there under.3.You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will be liable to pay:(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processess and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on **20/11/2023.**

Sd/- Recovery Officer
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, BANGALORE (DRT2)

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below:
"Rule 16 (1) Where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debt Recovery Officer, nor shall any Civil Court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money. (2) Where an attachment has been made under this Schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment".
(3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 years.

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in,
Ph : 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

PUBLICATION - DEMAND NOTICE

Notice under Section 13(2) of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 - Sent on **18-04-2024** by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due and the same was **returned by Mrs. Zareena Khanum.** Hence this.

No.1) M/s. Misba Silk Traders, Represented by its Proprietor : Ziya Ulla Khan, No.266/10/2, Yarabnagar, Hunasanahalli Main Road, Ramanagara District - 562159. No.2) Mr. Ziya Ulla Khan, S/o. Ghouse Khan, Ward No.10, Opp. Ice Factory, Madar Khan Mohalla, Ramanagara District - 562159. No.3) Mrs. Zareena Khanum, W/o. Ziya Ulla Khan, Ward No.10, Opp. Ice Factory, Madar Khan Mohalla, Ramanagara District - 562159.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Sub : Loan account / Overdraft with City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Ramnagara Branch in the name of M/s. Misba Silk Traders.

The Bank issued Notice under the SARFAESI Act on **18-04-2024** calling upon Nos. 1, 2 & 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080087636 is **Rs.7,45,773/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Forty Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Three only);** Nos. 1, 2 & 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 512020010018861 is **Rs.54,02,187/- (Rupees Fifty Four Lakh Two Thousand One Hundred and Eighty Seven only);** Nos. 1, 2 & 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080078570 is **Rs.6,92,878/- (Rupees Six Lakh Ninety Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Eight only),** as on **14-04-2024** with further interest for 501812080078570 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080087636 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 512020010018861 at **14.35%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **15-04-2024** till the date of repayment. The Notice **sent to you by Registered Post have been received by No.1 of you and received in person by No.2 and returned by No.3.**

Therefore, we hereby once again call upon Nos. 1, 2 & 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080087636 is **Rs.7,45,773/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Forty Five Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Three only);** Nos. 1, 2 & 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 512020010018861 is **Rs.54,02,187/- (Rupees Fifty Four Lakh Two Thousand One Hundred and Eighty Seven only);** Nos. 1, 2 & 3 of you jointly and severally towards the Loan Account 501812080078570 is **Rs.6,92,878/- (Rupees Six Lakh Ninety Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Eight only),** with further interest for 501812080078570 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 501812080087636 at **9.25%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded), 512020010018861 at **14.35%** plus **2.00%** penal interest p.a. (not compounded) with monthly rests from **15-04-2024** till the date of repayment within **60 days** from the date of this Notice failing which Bank will be Constrained to exercise its rights of enforcement of security interest as against the secured assets given in the Schedule hereunder. This Notice is published/issued without prejudice to any other right/remedy available to the Bank.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank
Schedule - A : (Property Owned by Mr. Ziya Ulla Khan, S/o. Ghouse Khan)

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing Municipal Khatha No.266/10/2, C-28,C-29. Measuring : East to West 33.5 feet on Northern Side, 30.00 feet on Southern Side and North to South 55 feet on Eastern Side, 70.00 feet on Western Side together with 1,984.375 sq.ft. situated in Kothipura 1st Stage, Ramnagara, Bounded on : East by : 20 feet Road, West by : Property belongs to Abdul Khaleel, Akleem Pasha and Shariqh Pasha, North by : Hunasanahalli Road, South by : 16 feet wide Road.

Movables Hypothecated to our Bank
Schedule - B

Flax Waste, Silk Waste situated at M/s. Misba Silk Traders, S.No 87/1, Mahaboob Nagar, Kasaba Hubli, Ramnagara Taluk, Ramnagara District - 562159.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 18-06-2024 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287,
Telephone No. 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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AXIS BANK Plot No. 41, Seshadri Road, Anand Rao Circle, Bangalore-560009

DEMAND NOTICE

A notice is hereby given that the following borrowers have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of credit facilities obtained by them from the bank and said facilities have turned in to Non-performing Assets. The notices were issued to them under section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 on their last known addresses, however the same have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower	Property Address on Which Loan Availed	Notice Date	Bal. O/S (Claimed) in Rs.
1	**(1) Mr.Mallesha M,** S/o.Mr.Muniraju, No 747 Govt School Road, Kodigehalli, Bangalore North, Bangalore Sahakarnagar P O, Bangalore-560092. **Also At :** Mr.Mallesha M, S/o.Mr. Muniraju, No. 171, 10th Block Banashankari, 6th Stage, Jattiganahalli Kengeri, Bangalore-560086 **(2) Mrs.Ashwini C,** W/o.Mr.Mallesh M, No 747 Govt School Road, Kodigehalli Bangalore North, Bangalore Sahakarnagar P O, Bangalore-560092. **Also At : Mrs.Ashwini C,** W/o.Mr.Mallesh M, No. 171, 10th Block, Banashankari, 6th Stage, Jattiganahalli Kengeri, Bangalore-560086.	Description Of Immovable Properties Belongs to **Mrs.Ashwini C W/o.Mr.Mallesh M.** All that piece and parcel of site bearing no.171, in the layout formed by the BDA, situated at 10th Block of Banashankari 6th Stage, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 6.00 Mtrs. and North to South: 9.00 Mtrs. in all measuring 54.00 Sq.mtrs. and bounded as follows: On the East by : Site no.172, West by : Site no.170, North by : Road, South by : Site No.224. **For any clarification, Please Contact Mr. Thrimoorthy in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	04.05.2024 NPA Date 16.04.2023	**Loan No. LPR022707572061 ASSET POWER BRE Rs.34,64,547/- Total Amount Rs.36,74,532/- due as on 27.04.2024**
2	**(1) Mr. Krishnan Akhilesh Narayan,** S/o. Mr. Konniseri Ananthnarayan Krishnan, Villa 6, No. 7, Ground Floor, Prestige Cedars, Convent Road, Bangalore-560025. **Property Address:-** Mr. Krishnan Akhilesh Narayan, S/o. Mr. Konniseri Ananthnarayan Krishnan, Flat No. SF 202, 2nd Floor, SNS Prem Nivas Apartments, Municipal No Union Street, Bangalore-560001. **(2) Mrs. Aurelia Narayan,** W/o. Mr. krishnan Akhilesh Narayan, Villa 6, No. 7, Ground Floor, Prestige Cedars, Convent Road, Bangalore-560025. **Also at :** Mrs. Aurelia Narayan, W/o. Mr. krishnan Akhilesh Narayan, Flat No. SF 202, 2nd Floor, SNS Prem Nivas Apartments, Municipal No Union Street, Bangalore-560001.	Description Of The Immoveable Properties Belongs to **Mr. K A Krishnan** S/o. Dr. K A Narayan. All that Flat No. SF-202, 2nd Floor, Sns Prem Nivas, Apts, Muncipal No. Union Street Shivajinagar, Bangalore together with the right to use common areas of the building, the right to use water closet, drainage, lavatories and other conveniences and facilities, amenities in or upon or pertaining to or connected to the flat/ unit / office premises, both present and future and easementary rights and together with all fixtures and fittings, both present and future. Boundaries: Property Measurement: 2200, North : Habib Ansar's Property, South : Union Street, East : Hospital Road, West : Habib Ansar's Property. **For any clarification, please contact Mr. Raghunatha Reddy B R in Mobile No. 9663965856.**	16.05.2024 NPA Date 30.09.2021	**Loan No. LPR168804607835 ASSET POWER BRE Rs. 1,59,44,089/- Total Amount Rs. 1,99,66,679/- due as on 15.05.2024**
3	**(1) Mr.Sampath Raju,** S/o. Mr.Changama Raju, No 342/18 Sri Balaji Nilayam, 16th A Main 35th Cross 4th T Block, Jaya Nagar Bangalore-560041. **Also At :** Mr.Sampath Raju, S/o.mr.changama Raju, No. 1 21 7 70 New No. 70. 1 32nd C Cross, 10 Main Road 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011. **(2) Mrs.S.N.Chaya,** W/o.Mr.Sampath Raju, No. 342/18 Sri Balaji Nilayam, 16th A Main 35th Cross 4th T Block, Jayanagar Bangalore-560041. **Also At :** Mrs.S.N Chaya, W/o.Mr.Sampath Raju, No. 1 21 7 70, New No. 70 1, 32nd C Cross, 10 Main Road, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011.	Description Of Immovable Properties Belongs to **Mr.Sampath Raju** S/o.Mr.Changama Raju. All the Piece and Parcel of property bearing no 70-1,PID NO-60-117-70/1, situated at 32nd C cross,4 block, Jayanagar, Bangalore, measuring on the East to West 48.3 feet and North to South 14.3+14/2 ft in all measuring 683.44 sq feet and bounded on the: Property Boundries: East by: 10th Main Road, West By: Private Property, North By: Remaining Commercial Portion of same Property retained by the Vendor, South By: 32 nd 'C' Cross Road. **For any clarification please contact Mr.Raghunath in Mobile No. 9886960484.**	06.05.2024 NPA Date 10.12.2020	**Loan No. PCR051403617043 ASSET POWER BRE Rs. 1,24,41,660/- Total Amount Rs.1,65,15,926/- due as on 04.05.2024**
4	**(1) Ms.Aravinda Gunda,** D/o.Mr.Satyanarayana Gunda, Adarsh Residency, Flat A301,2nd Main Road, 47th Cross,Jaya Nagar 8th Bloack, Bangalore,Karnataka - 560082. **Also At :** Ms.Aravinda Gunda D/o.Mr.Satyanarayana Gunda, At.1-7-145/4/A, Srinivasa Col,Zamisthanpur Post, Hyderabad-500020. **Also At :** Ms.Aravinda Gunda, D/o.Mr. Satyanarayana Gunda, D.607, Flat No.607,6th Floor, Emerald Heights, Block-D, Sy No.1106, Ghanapur Hamlet of Edulabed Village Hyderabad, **(2) Mr. Satyanarayana Gunda** S/o.Mr.Ramaiah, Adarsh Residency, Flat A301,2nd Main Road, 47th Cross, jaya Nagar 8th Bloack, Bangalore,karnataka-560082. **Also At :** Mr. Satyanarayana Gunda S/o.Mr.Ramaiah, At.1-7-145/4/A, Srinivasa Col,Zamisthanpur Post, Hyderabad-500020. **Also At :** Mr. Satyanarayana Gunda, S/o.Mr.Ramaiah, D.607, Flat No.607,6th Floor, Emerald Heights , Block-D, Sy No.1106, Ghanapur Hamlet of Edulabed Village, Hyderabad.	Description of Property PH0090100077134 standing in the name of **Mr.Aravinda Gunda** D/o Mr.Satyanarayana Gunda. A Semi-finished apartment no. 607 on the Sixth Floor, in Block 'D', admeasuring 1493 Sq. ft of built up area and 402 sft of common area together with proportionate undivided share of land to the extent of 62.5 Sq yards and a reserved car parking slot no. C2D 28,29 admeasuring about 300 Sft forming part of the group of residential apartments collectively named as 'EMERALD HEIGHTS' situated at Sy.No. 1106 (P), Ghanapur Hamlet of Edulabad Village, Ghanapur Grampanchayat, Ghatkesar Mandal, Ranga Reddy District. North : Lift, South :Open to Sky, East : Open to Sky, West : By Corridor. **For any clarification, please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy S in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	03.05.2024 NPA Date 04.03.2024	**Loan No. PH0090100077134 POWER HOME Rs.33,10,044/- Total Amount Rs.7,22,201.54/- due as on 27.04.2024**
5	**(1) Mr.Raju Solomon Veeravalli,** S/o Purnachanora Rao Veeravalli, No.4, 6th B Cross, Chinapanahalli Marathahalli, Karnataka, Bangalore-560037. **Also At** : Mr.Raju Solomon Veeravalli, S/o Purnachanora Rao Veeravalli, Zion Prayer House Ist Lane DND 27-10-15 Kannavarithota Guntur,andhra Pradesh-522004. **Also At :** Mr.raju Solomon Veeravalli S/opurnachanora Rao Veeravalli, Flat No-101,1st Floor, New Bmp No-295/2-1, New Pid No-83-252-295/2-1 Bmp Ward #83, Kaggadasapura Village Extn,kr Puram Hobl Bangalore-560093. **(2) Mr. Purnachandra Rao Veeravalli** S/o.Mr.Basaviah Veeravalli, No.4,6th B Cross, Chinapanahalli Marathahalli, Karnataka, Bangalore-560037. **Also At** : Mr. Purnachandra Rao Veeravalli S/o.Mr.Basaviah Veeravalli, Zion Prayer House Ist Lane Dnd 27-10-15, Kannavarithota Guntur, Andhra Pradesh-522004. **Also At :** Mr. Purnachandra Rao Veeravalli, S/o.Mr.Basaviah Veeravalli, Flat No-101,1st Floor, New BMP No-295/2-1, New PID No-83-252-295/2-1 BMP Ward #83, Kaggadasapura Village Extn, K R Puram Hobli, Bangalore-560093.	Description of Property PHR056104725400 Standing in the name of **Mr. Raju Solomon Veeravalli** S/o Purnachanora Rao Veeravalli. All that piece and parcel of flat bearing no.101, Municipal no.295/2-1, PID no. 63-252-295/2-1, on the first floor of the multi-storied building known as "Srikar Residency" constructed and erected on property bearing site no.18, HASB katha no.295/2, Kaggadasapura Village, KR Puram Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently BBMP ward no.83, Bangalore with 1/5TH or 480 Sq.ft., of undivided share in land and 830 sq.ft., of super built-up area. The total property is bounded as follows: On the East by : House site no.19, West by : House site no.17, North by : Private property, South by : Road. **For any clarification, please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy S in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	03.05.2024 NPA Date 07.08.2023	**Loan No. PH0090100211033 POWER HOME Rs.13,36,650/- Total Amount Rs.8,31,845/- due as on 27.04.2024**
6	**(1) Ms Shilpashree S,** D/o Mr. Srinivasulu Naidu, No.524 Sf 1 Shankara, Krishna Residency 3rd Main, Ombr Layout Bangalore - 560043 . **Also At : Ms Shilpashree S,** D/o Mr. Srinivasulu Naidu, Plotno 117, Plot No 117 Confident Cggnus 3 Sy No 29, Doddakannelli Village, Varthur Hobl, Bangalore East, Bangalore. **(2) Mr. Srinivasulu Naidu** S/o. Duraiswamy Vellore, No.524 Sf 1 Shankara, Krishna Residency 3rd Main, OMBR Layout Bangalore - 560043. **Also At :** Mr. Srinivasulu Naidu, S/o.duraiswamy Vellore, Plot No 117, Plot No. 117 Confident CGGNUS 3 Sy No 29, Doddakannelli Village, Varthur Hobl, Bangalore East, Bangalore.	Description Of Property PHR056104725400 Standing in the name of **Ms. Shilpashree S** D/o Mr. Srinivasulu Naidu. All that piece and parcel of the site property allotted No.117 allotted in CONFIDENT CYGNUS-III measuring 1162 Sq. Ft formed out of the property mentioned in the Schedule A, and the layout is approved by the Hoskote Planning authority order no. HPA/LAO/06/2012 and dated 18/07/2012 and Khatha No.1074 SY.No.29/2, bounded by: East : Plot No.99, West : Road, North : Plot No.116, South : Plot No.118 **For any clarification, please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy S in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	03.05.2024 NPA Date 06.08.2023	**Loan No. PHR000900623267 POWER HOME Rs.10,70,030/- Total Amount Rs. 4,37,541/- due as on 27.05.2024**
7	**(1) Mr.Pape Gowda,** S/o.mr.rame Gowda, No.08,6th Cross, Seetha Byraveshwara Nkaya, Behind Teja Shwini Bar Near Ksit College, Ragmuvanahalli Kanakapram Road, Bangalore-560061. **Also At :** Mr.Pape Gowda, S/o.Mr.Rame Gowda, 22/1 Nadanahalli Sagathivalli, Channaraya Patra Hassan-573116. **Also At :** Mr.Pape Gowda, S/o.Mr.Rame Gowda, No.533, Plot No. 533 BSK 6th Phase, 4th Block, Vrushabhavathi Lyt, Bangalore-560085. **(2) Mrs.Shylaja K R,** W/o.mr.pape Gowda, No.08, 6th Cross, Seetha Byraveshwara Nkaya, Behind Teja Shwini Bar Near Ksit College, Ragmuvanahalli Kanakapram Road, Bangalore-560061. **Also At :** Mrs.shylaja K R, W/o.mr.pape Gowda, 22/1 Nadanahalli Sagathivalli, Channaraya Patra Hassan-573116. **Also At :** Mrs.Shylaja K R, W/o.Mr.Pape Gowda, No.533, Plot No 533 BSK, 6th Phase, 4th Block , Vrushabhavathi Lyt, Bangalore-560085.	Description of Immovable Properties belongs to **Mr.Oaapegowda N R** S/o .Mr.Kame Gowda. All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.533, formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, situated at Banashankari 6th Stage (Vrishabhavathi Nagar), 4th 'H' Block, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 6.00 meters and North to South: 9.00 meters, in all measuring 54.00 square meters, and bounded as follows: East by : Site No.532, West by :Site No.534, North by :Road, South by: Site No.558. **For any clarification please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	04.05.2024 NPA Date 14.09.2023	**Loan No. PHR000901726280 POWER HOME Rs. 13,00,000/- Total Amount Rs.9,42,171/- due as on 27.04.2024**
8	**(1) Mrs.Roopa,** W/o.Mr.Sudeep, No.288/16, 9th Main Road, 3rd Cross, 1st Stag, 2nd Phase, Gokula, Bengaluru-560054. **Also At : Mrs.Roopa,** W/o.Mr.Sudeep, Plot No.88, Uttar, Situated At Devanahalli Village, Bangalore, Karnataka-562110. **(2) Mr.Sudeep,** S/o.Mr.Hottappa Ramachandra, No.288/16, 3rd Cross, 9th Main, 1st stage , 2nd phase, Gokula, Near Lic Office , Bangalore-560054 **Also At :** Mr.Sudeep, S/o.Mr.Hottappa Ramachandra, Plot No.88, Uttar, Situated at Devanahalli Village, Bangalore, Karnataka-562110. **(3) Mrs.Pramila Devi,** W/o.Late. Mr.Vishakantappa, No.34, Sri Lalshmi Nivas, 2nd Main, Nethaji Circle, Nathikere, Bengaluru-560054. **Also At** : Mrs.Pramila Devi, W/o.Late. Mr.Vishakantappa, 41, 3rd Cross, HMT Layout, Mathikere, Bangaluru-560054. **Also At :** Mrs.Pramila Devi, W/o Mr.Vishakantappa, Plot No.88, Uttar, Situated at Devanahalli Village, Bangalore, Karnataka-562110.	Description Of Immovable Properties Belongs to **(1) Mrs.Roopa** W/o.Mr.Sudeep **(2) Mr.Sudeep** S/o.Mr.Hottappa Ramachandra And **(3) (GPA HOLDER- Mrs.Pramila Devi** W/o.Late. Mr.Vishakantappa). All that piece and parcel of residentially converted Property bearing Vacant Plot No. 88, in the Biaapa Approved Layout known as 'BLUEJAY UTTAR', carved out of Sy.No. 237/4 and Sy No. 237/5 described in Schedule 'A' Property, Situated at Devanahalli town 4th Division Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore, measurement and boundaries as follows: Measurement: East to West:12.19 Meters, North to South : 9.14 Meters, In all Measuring : 111.417 Square Meters. Boundaries: East by : Road, West by : Plot No 91, North by : Plot No 87, South by : Plot No.89. **For any clarification please contact Mr.Thrimoorthy in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	04.05.2024 NPA Date 08.09.2023	**Loan No. PHR022707462781 POWER HOME VANILLA BRE Rs.55,84,821/- Total Amount Rs.22,44,785/- due as on 27.04.2024**
9	**(1) Mrs.Roopa,** W/o.Mr.Sudeep, No.288/16, 9th Main Road, 3rd Cross,1st Stage, 2nd Phase, Gokula, Bengaluru-560054. **Also at :** Mrs.Roopa, W/o.Mr.Sudeep, Plot No.87, Uttar, Situated At Devanahalli Village, Bangalore, Karnataka-562110. **(2) Mr.Sudeep,** S/o.Mr.Hottappa Ramachandra, No.288/16, 3rd Cross, 9th Main, 1st Stage, 2nd Phase, Gokula, Near Lic Office , Bangalore-560054, **Also at :** Mr.Sudeep, S/o.Mr.Hottappa Ramachandra, Plot No.87, Uttar, Situated at Devanahalli Village, Bangalore, Karnataka-562110. **(3) Mrs.Pramila Devi** W/o Mr.Vishakantappa, No.34, Sri Lalshmi Nivas, 2nd Main Nethaji Circle, Nathikere, Bengaluru-560054. **Also At : Mrs.Pramila Devi** W/o Mr.Vishakantappa, 41, 3rd Cross, HMT Layout, Mathikere, Bangaluru-560054. **Also At :** Mrs.Pramila Devi, W/o Mr.Vishakantappa, Plot No.87, Uttar, Situated at Devanahalli Village, Bangalore,Karnataka-562110.	Description of Immovable Properties belongs to **(1) Mrs.Roopa** W/o.Mr.Sudeep **(2) Mr.Sudeep** S/o.Mr.Hottappa Ramachandra and **(3) (GPA HOLDER- Mrs.Pramila Devi** W/o.Late. Mr.Vishakantappa). All that piece and parcel of residentially converted Property bearing Vacant Plot No. 87, in the Biaapa Approved Layout known as 'BLUEJAY UTTAR', carved out of Sy.No. 237/4 and Sy No. 237/5 described in Schedule 'A' Property, Situated at Devanahalli town 4th Division Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore, measurement and boundaries as follows: Measurement: East to West :12.19 Meters, North to South :9.14 Meters, In all Measuring :111.417 Square Meters. Boundaries: East By :Road, West By :Plot No 92, North By : Plot No 86, South By : Plot No 88. **For any clarification please contact Mr.Thrimoorthy in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	04.05.2024 NPA Date 08.09.2023	**Loan No. PHR022707462867 POWER HOME VANILLA BRE Rs.55,84,821/- Total Amount Rs.22,44,785/- due as on 27.04.2024**
10	**(1) Mr.Nagaraju H G** S/o.Mr. Gangadharaappa, 20/10, MF 'T' Block, FCI Officers Staff Quarters, Nandini Layout, Nr Nandini Layout Police St,Bangalore,Karnataka-560096. **Also At :** Mr.Nagaraju H G, S/o.Mr. Gangadharaappa, 06, 1st Mani 6th A Cross Hanumanthapura, Kuvempu Nagar, Behind SLN Choultry, Tumkur, Karnataka-572103. **Also At :** Mr. Nagaraju H G, S/o.Mr. Gangadharaappa, Site No.76, Bhasyashree Apoorva, Veerapura Village, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka-562103. **(2) Mrs.Roopa M.G** W/o Nagaraji H G 20/10,MF 'T' Block, FCI Officers Staff Quarters,Nandini Layout, Police Station, Bangalore, Karnataka-560096. **Also At :** Mrs.Roopa M.G W/o Nagaraji H G, Madhavanagar, Gauribidnur, Chikkaballapur (Dist) Guribidnur, Karnataka-561208. **Also At** : Mrs.Roopa M.G W/o Nagaraji H G Site No.76, Bhasyashree Apoorva, Veerapura Village, Doddaballapur Taluk, Bangalore Rural, Karnataka-562103.	Description of Property PHR056101345688 standing in the name of **Mr. Nagaraju H G** S/o Gangadharappa **And Mrs.Roopa MG** W/o Nagaraju. All that piece and parcel of converted property bearing Residential Vacant Site No.76carved out of Sy.No.20,of Bhagyashree Apoorva, situated atVeerapura Village. KasabaHobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, which is converted into Non-Agricultural Residential purpose vide its Order No.ALN(Do.K)SR/23/2012-13 dated 25-07-2013, having Panchayat Property No.150300301700520109, Katha No.282/18/76and Plan approved by the BIAAPA, vide its approval No.BIAAPA/TP01/LAO/13/2013-14 dated 06.06.2014, Measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, totally measuring 1200 Square feet, and bounded on: East by : 30 feet road, West by :Site No.83, North by :Site No.75, South by : Site No.77. **For any clarification, please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy S in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	03.05.2024 NPA Date 03.02.2024	**Loan No. PHR056101345688 POWER HOME Rs.13,00,000/- Total Amount Rs. 6,88,349/- due as on 27.04.2024**
11	**(1) Mrs. Anita Subramaniyan,** S/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, No. 30, 2nd Cross, 3rd Block Behind Petro, Park, Sasappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016. **Property Address:** Mrs. Anita Subramaniyan, S/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, Plot No. 24, Sri Sathya Sai Layout, Sulibel Road, Devanahlli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore-562110. **(2) Mrs. Esther Vansantha,** W/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, No. 30, 2nd Cross, 3rd Block Behind Petro, Park Sasappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016. **Also at :** Mrs. Esther Vansantha, W/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, Plot No. 24, Sri Sathya Sai Layout, Sulibel Road, Devanahlli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore-562110.	Description of the Schedule Property belongs to **Mrs. Anitha Subramanian** D/o Mr. Subramanian K. All that piece and parcel of site bearing no. 47, bearing municipal Katha khaneshumari No. 513/47 in the layout known 'sri Sathya Sai Baba Layout", formed in residentially converted land bearing Sy. no. 377/2 and 378, situated at Devanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District admeasuring North side 28'2" South side -32'4" and East and West side -46'6" and West side Trianglur portion measuring 1/2X6'8"X46'6" and the total site measuring 1595 Sq. ft., ((1) 28'2'+32'4"X46'6"X46'6"/2 (2) 1/2X6'8"X46'6") and the property is bounded as follows: On the East by : Site no.46, West by : Private Property, North by : Private Property Sy no.379, South by : 30 ft. Road. **For any clarification please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	16.05.2024 NPA Date 11.05.2024	**Loan No. PHR056101724059 POWER HOME Rs. 66,39,187/- Total Amount Rs. 68,95,602/- due as on 15.05.2024**
12	**(1) Mrs. Anita Subramaniyan,** S/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, No. 30, 2nd Cross, 3rd Block, Behind Petro, Park, Sasappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016. **Property Address: Also at :** Mrs. Anita Subramaniyan, S/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, Plot No. 24, Sri Sathya Sai Layout, Sulibel Road, Devanahlli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore-562110. **(2) Mrs. Esther Vansantha,** W/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, No. 30, 2nd Cross, 3rd Block Behind Petro, Park, Sasappa Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016. **Also at :** Mrs. Esther Vansantha, W/o. Mr. Subramaniyan, Plot No. 24, Sri Sathya Sai Layout, Sulibel Road, Devanahlli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore – 562110.	Description of the schedule property belongs to **Mrs. Anitha subramanian** D/o mr. Subramanian.K. All that piece and parcel of vacant site bearing no. 24, katha no. 519/490/24, Municipal katha Khaneshumari no. 490/24, in the layout known 'sathya Sai Baba Layout', formed in residentially converted land bearing Sy. no. 377/2 and 378, situated at Devanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Measuring : East to West on Northern side: 71'9" on the Southern side: 70'4" and North to South on the Eastern side: 30 ft. and Western side: 30 ft. and the total site measures 2134 Sq. ft. Bounded As Follows: On the East by: Sy.no.381/3. West by : 30 feet Road, North by : Site no.25 , South by : Site no.23. **For any clarification please contact Mr. Thrimoorthy S in Mobile No. 9036773553.**	16.05.2024 NPA Date 11.05.2024	**Loan No. PHR056101781187 POWER HOME Rs. 44,33,275/- Total Amount Rs. 68,95,602/- due as on 15.05.2024**

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrowers and/ or the guarantors (where ever applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice as per the provision of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002. Please note that under Section 13(13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, after Receipt of Notice referred to in Sub-section (2), transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.
The Borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of sections 13 of the Act. The borrowers may redeem the secured assets by paying the dues of the secured creditor together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or inviting quotations or tender from public or private treaty for transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale of the secured assets.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 17.06.2024

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Axis Bank Ltd.

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TUESDAY

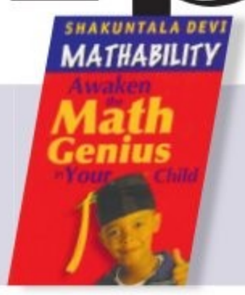
DAY'S DIARY

Math world record

In 1980, Shakuntala Devi made it to the Guinness World Record by mentally multipling two 13-digits at Imperial College London in 28 seconds

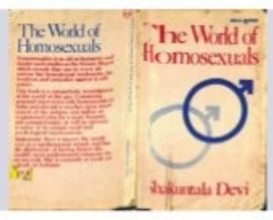
HUMAN COMPUTER

Shakuntala was heralded as 'Human Computer'. She disliked this title and felt it is inappropriate to compare the mind with computers as the former is incomparably more capable



LITERARY WORKS

She wrote books on math and her techniques, such as *Puzzles to Puzzle You*, *Super Memory: It Can Be Yours* and *Mathability: Awaken the Math Genius in Your Child*



AN ALLY

In 1977, she wrote *The World of Homosexuals*, featuring her research findings, including interviews with same-sex couples in India and abroad

CE's guide to happenings in the city

PG 2

From stocking bulk-bought cocoa to reducing its content in recipes, and even absorbing financial losses to keep serving regulars, Bengaluru's patisseries and bakeries run the gamut in their approach to the ongoing global cocoa supply crisis

BITTER TRUTH

DESE GOWDA

FORGET gold and oil, the real precious commodity in 2024 is brown and solid: cocoa beans. The world is facing a full-blown chocolate crisis, with prices soaring faster than the venerable Willy Wonka on a sugar rush. Climate change, crop diseases, and a chronic lack of investment in Africa's cocoa belt – which supplies more than 60 per cent of the world's cocoa – have led to a steep decline in production. The result? Fewer beans reaching chocolate producers and a potential cocoa-less future for connoisseurs.

How are Bengaluru's innumerable patisseries dealing with the crisis? Glen Williams, founder, Glen's Bakehouse, which has a dozen outlets in the city, has increased prices by 20-30 per cent, depending on the product, rather than changing recipes to adapt to the rising cocoa prices. "From a customer's perspective, if they used to buy two kilos of chocolate cake, they might now buy 1.5 kilos. As part of the product team, I'm very clear about cost. We shouldn't charge more than necessary, but we also need to survive and pay salaries. The cocoa price today has nearly doubled – from ₹384 a few months ago to ₹720 at this point. We had an early tip-off about the rising prices, so we bought extra stock. But, buying extra stock comes with costs and shelf-life issues," he shares.

Aarohi Sanghavi

UNPRECEDENTED MELTDOWN

Three years of poor harvests, caused by worsening weather and crop diseases in the Ivory Coast and Ghana, have significantly reduced the global cocoa supply. This scarcity, combined with sustained global demand for chocolate, has driven prices to record highs. The cocoa market is anticipated to face another deficit next season due to the severity of cacao diseases affecting cocoa production, potentially resulting in four consecutive years of deficit for the first time in half a century

Aarohi Sanghavi, the founder of the quaint Maki Patisserie in Indiranagar also bought a large stock of cocoa from her supplier in anticipation of rising prices a few months ago. "Thus far, shortages haven't been a significant issue. However, prices are expected to rise further. Currently, we have not decided to discontinue chocolate desserts, but we are limiting their quantity and trying not to increase prices for our customers. We prefer to avoid passing on the costs to them," she shares, adding, "Eventually, it is likely we will need to raise prices as it seems inevitable."

Meanwhile, some bakeries are experimenting with reducing the cocoa content in their recipes, while others are absorbing financial losses to keep serving their regulars, with hopes of the crisis resolving soon.

"Chocolate is universally loved, and I believe it's essential for any bakery. We're hoping prices will stabilise soon, though predictions suggest it might take up to two years. To balance things out, we're promoting more fruit-based cakes – like mango, which is in season – while still running the bakery as usual," says Teena Vellara, founder of Croons, a patisserie. The availability of her own space on Church Street has allowed her to absorb the increasing cost of cocoa while maintaining prices. "Fortunately, I don't have to pay rent, which helps manage overall expenses," she adds.

Despite increasing prices by an average of 13 to 15 per cent Abhishek Singhania, co-director at ZOROY, a luxury boutique cafe, says it hasn't significantly affected their business. "However, we have noticed a slowdown in bulk sales of cocoa powder, where our customers are B2B and use it to make other products. These customers are more price-sensitive," he shares, adding, "We are also supplementing seasonal fruit flavours instead of chocolate wherever possible to offset the price increase. For example, in our hampers, which usually contain around 10 items, we used to include three chocolate items. Now, we've reduced it to two to help manage costs."

CITY READ

Actors collaborate with dating app for new campaign

Dating app Bumble launched an India-wide integrated campaign that highlights Opening Moves, featuring new content with Bollywood actors **Khushi Kapoor and Vedang Raina**. Opening Moves is the dating app's feature that gives women the option to set a question that their matches can respond to, creating a new way to engage with connections while keeping women in control. In Bumble's new film, Kapoor and Raina bond over the new feature, with Kapoor asking Raina questions like 'Most iconic first date idea?' and 'What's your guilty pleasure?' Their interactions showcase their chemistry, and highlight the shift in the dating experience by offering more choice in how women can make the first move. Speaking on this partnership, Kapoor shares, "It represents a crucial shift in contemporary dating dynamics, empowering women to take charge of their own romantic journeys."

XPRESS FOCUS SMD INITIATIVE

Hi Life Exhibition in Bengaluru

Hello, Bengaluru, make a fashionable start this new season on high fashion note as India's most loved fashion showcase Hi Life exhibition is back.

Witness the trendsetting fashion collections from your favorite designers which will make your every IG story trending with the latest stunning range of designer wear, jewellery, bridal wear, fashion accessories & much more.

Be there on 18th & 19th June at The Lalit Ashok.

BOOK NOOK

The Rule Book
By Sarah Adams

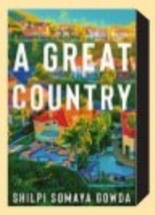
College sweethearts Nora and Derek reunite when she becomes his sports agent. Their past romance leads to hilarious challenges, but a wild Vegas night throws them into a marriage of convenience that could change everything.

House of Flame and Shadow
By Sarah J Maas

Separated in a strange new world, Bryce and Hunt must find their way back to each other and Midgard, their home. With danger looming, they race against time to save themselves and prevent the collapse of their world.

The Reappearance of Rachel Price
By Holly Jackson

This true-crime-fueled mystery thriller revolves around Bel, who is haunted by her mother unsolved disappearance sixteen years ago. Being the only witness, her world is thrown into chaos when she returns with a shocking mystery of her own.



A Great Country
By Shilpi Somaya Gowda

The seemingly perfect American dream of an immigrant family shatters when their son is arrested. This event forces them to confront cultural clashes, their definition of success, and their place in America.

EMOTIVE EXPRESSIONS

Bharatanatyam dancer Anjali captivates the audience with her graceful moves at her Rangapravesha at JSS Auditorium, Jayanagar

DEAR LIFE

Preeti Shenoy
Insta: @preeti.shenoy
Novelist, Illustrator, Speaker

In college, I fell in love with my classmate, I told him, and he asked me to date him. But another girl confessed her feelings for him at the same time, he assured me that it was not serious but later dumped me. He is now with her, and I feel like trash. Please help.

Being rejected is excruciatingly painful. In your case, it is even harder to accept, as he gave you hope initially, only to completely crush it later. Understandably, you feel both rejected and used. We have absolutely no control over how other people behave. He seems like the type who will always be attracted to the next new thing. Would you have truly been happy with him long-term? Probably not. To overcome something so soul-crushing, work on yourself. Set three specific daily goals such as walking 6000 steps, creating art, reading 20 pages, journaling or meditating. Do it every single day for three months. This will transform your outlook, and your life, as your validation will now come from within yourself, and not from what that boy or his new girlfriend does.

ASK AN XPERT

Send in your queries to ask-preetishenoy@gmail.com

FITBIT

BHUJANGASANA CHAIR

(COBRA POSE ON A CHAIR)

This is a beginner-level restorative yoga pose that anyone can practice easily anywhere, as long as they have access to a chair. The pose is a sitting variation of the traditional Bhujangasana which is performed by lying in a prone position. It is beneficial for anyone who spends long hours at their desks.

STEPS

- Sit on a chair comfortably.
- Start aligning to Chair Tadasana (Chair Mountain Pose) by not leaning against the back of the chair, straightening your back.
- Close your eyes, slow your breathing. Retain your breath (internal kumbhaka) after each inhale. Exhale longer than you inhale.
- Prepare for the Bhujangasana Chair performance.
- Move a little forward with your feet firmly grounded.
- Place your arms near the joining of the back legs of the chair with the seat. If this is uncomfortable, you can place your arms behind you, with your palms on the chair.
- Once you are stable, take a deep inhale, raise your neck towards the sky, push your chest forward, and try to bend your back as you look up to the sky.
- Feel the expansiveness in your chest and neck region and the strength and flexibility of your spine.
- Close your eyes and stay for a few breaths.
- Whenever you are ready, with an exhale, bring your neck and back to the starting position.
- It is a simple pose and very relaxing. So, take your time and allow yourself to slow down.
- Reflect on the physical and mental impact of being in this pose.
- Exit this pose by coming back into Chair Tadasana, as per your comfort.

BENEFITS

- Makes your body flexible and fills the muscles with great physical strength.
- Activates the proper functioning of digestive organs.
- Helps in healing respiratory disorders like asthma, allergies and other such disorders.
- Helps increase blood circulation.
- Gives relief from backache, neckache and other such ailments.
- Relieves the leg from sciatica pain by softening the spinal impingement.
- Simply kneads the abdominal organs certifying a healthy urinary system and proper waste elimination.
- Kundalini awakening infuses the muscle and body with extreme strength.
- Keeps the seven chakras of the body balanced.
- Improves the spinal flexibility and releases spinal compression.
- Removes pressure off our shoulders, arms, lower abdomen, hips, thighs, glutes, and knees.
- Makes the pose accessible for seniors, pregnant women, anyone with stomach issues, and students who have mobility issues.
- Helps release stress on their backs and shoulders.
- Beneficial for working professionals.
- Helps ensure that the student's posture remains good despite the hours of sitting.
- Brings a sense of expansiveness and openness to the Anahata (Heart) Chakra and also stimulates the Vishuddha (Throat) Chakra.

LIMITATIONS

- Students with injuries or surgeries to the wrist, arms, elbows, or shoulders, abdominal or during pregnancy, undergone spinal, neck, back, or abdominal surgeries or have not fully healed injuries, not maintaining breathing and focus, carpal tunnel syndrome, avoid this pose.
- Students recovering from any spinal or vertebral issues, herniated disc, or spondylolisthesis should consult with a yoga expert before the practice.
- Those who cannot sit for longer, can use a cushion or pillow.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

QUICKFIX

CRISPY PANEER NUGGETS

INGREDIENTS

- **Paneer:** 10-15 cubes
- **Chilli powder:** 1 tsp
- **Corn flour slurry:** 1 cup
- **Doritos:** 1 packet

METHOD

- Cut the paneer cubes into half and then put the chilli powder on the cubes.
- Then make it like a sandwich and then dip them in corn flour slurry.
- Crush the Doritos and then coat the paneer with the Doritos.
- Deep fry the paneer cubes and the serve hot with mayonnaise and sauce.

Contributed by **Shiny Hadassah**, Hyderabad

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Fabrics & Dyes

Discover the sophisticated techniques and cultural significance of Batik, a centuries-old, traditional Indonesian craft, that uses hot wax to dye fabric for creating stunning patterns.

WHEN: June 18, 1pm
WHERE: Burp, RMV 2nd Stage
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Sanam Unplugged

Get ready to experience the magic of the indie pop rock band **Sanam**'s electrifying live performance with hits like *Kya Hua Tera Wada, Aur Iss Dil Mein, Gulabi Aankhen, Lag Jaa Gale*, and more.

WHEN: June 22, 4pm
WHERE: Jayamahal Palace Hotel, Jayamahal Road
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Adventure Awaits

Escape from pirates in this locked mystery room experience and feel the excitement of finding the treasure.

WHEN: June 18 onwards, 11am
WHERE: GaminGalaxy, Mahadevapura
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Retreat Time

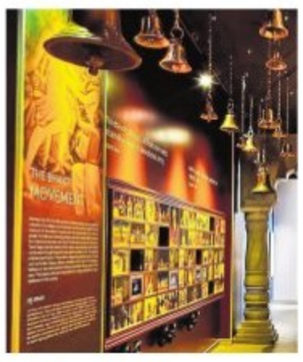
Indulge in serenity with family and friends while savouring delicious cuisine, and engaging in various indoor and outdoor activities, including beach volleyball, badminton, and more.

WHEN: June 18, 9am
WHERE: Ruppi's Hotel and Resort, Tavarekere Hobli
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Southern Beats

Rock to the infectious rhythms of South Indian music, celebrating the rich cultural diversity and energetic beats of Kannada, Telugu, Malayalam, and Tamil music, curated by a talented lineup of DJs.

WHEN: June 18, 8pm
WHERE: Ottoman Restobar, Bellandur
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com



For Music Buffs

Immerse yourself in a musical journey at this interactive museum, set in the theme of Indian music ranging from classical maestros to indie rock bands, along with music expos, classes and workshops.

WHEN: June 18, 10am
WHERE: Indian Music Experience Museum, JP Nagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Aroma Therapy

Engage in this therapeutic workshop of candle making, as you blend essential oils to create customised aromas. Make at least three candles with different fragrances and take your masterpieces home.

WHEN: June 18, 4pm
WHERE: Paint Cafe Studio, Whitefield
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures
bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@xpress_bengaluru

ARTCORNER

LUSH GREENS

Artist Pradosh Paul's watercolour on paper captures a beautiful landscape of a water body surrounded by lush greenery

FLYLEAF
VR FEROSE

(The author is a technologist based in Silicon Valley who is gently mad about books)

HAS CRICKET FINALLY ARRIVED IN THE USA?

The Indian diaspora and its growth, both in terms of absolute numbers and overall wealth and influence, has played a big role in the game gaining prominence

The India-Pak match at the temporarily-built Nassau County International Cricket Stadium in New York

ON June 9, the India-Pakistan match broke the record for the most-attended cricket match in the USA with 38,028 people – and I was one of them. The low-scoring match with rain interruptions eventually met the demand of the audience (90 per cent of which were Indian fans) thanks to the clinical bowling of Jasprit Bumrah. Although the 'drop-in' pitch did not meet the standards of a high-scoring T20 match, that it was transported from Australia and an entire popup stadium was built (at a cost of $40million) is an achievement. The Nassau County International Cricket Stadium was constructed in just 106 days and will take approximately six weeks to dismantle. With high-profile people in attendance – Sachin Tendulkar, Saurav Ganguly, Indra Nooyi, Satya Nadella and Sundar Pichai to name a few – the logical next stop for cricket is America.

The question is – can cricket become America's national sport? Jayesh Patel's *Flannels on the Sward* asks that question and answers by saying, "It would have been". By 1859 cricket was being played in at least 22 US states, in over 125 cities and towns, with an estimated 1,000 clubs! Around the time of the US Civil War, the game began competing with baseball for participants, and gradually declined in popularity.

After I moved to the US in 2014, my interest in cricket declined, primarily because watching India's games posed a time zone challenge. Also, cricket was never the topic of discussion with colleagues as it competed with basketball, baseball, football and other sports for mindshare. However, once I started mentoring Anika Kolan (wicketkeeper, batter), the 17-year-old Vice Captain of the US Women's Cricket team, my interest levels increased, especially in cricket in the USA. With the current T20 Cricket World Cup being played in the US and the West Indies, cricket is making a comeback in the US.

In another landmark development, cricket is poised to return to the Olympic Games after more than a century. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has officially confirmed the inclusion of cricket in the Los Angeles 2028 Olympics, marking a triumphant comeback for the game on the world's grandest sporting stage. Men's and women's T20 cricket events will feature in the XXXIV Olympiad, a significant step forward from the game's last appearance in 1900. With an estimated fan base of 2.5 billion, cricket holds the title of the second most popular sport in the world. Its participation in the Olympics will only broaden this reach, introducing the thrill of the fast-paced T20 format to new audiences.

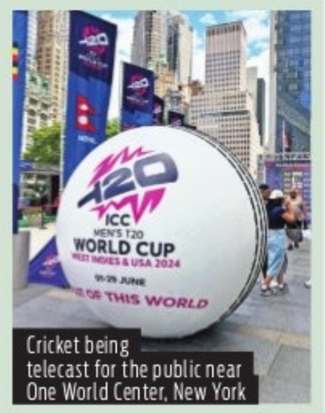
So how did cricket make this historic comeback in the US? The Indian diaspora and its growth, both in terms of absolute numbers (Indian immigrants are the second largest immigrant group after the Mexicans) and overall wealth and influence, has played a big role. Today Indians earn higher than any other ethnic group. Data shows 1 per cent of Indians pay around 6 per cent of taxes in the US. The formation of Major League Cricket in 2023 with several overseas players from South Africa, West Indies, Pakistan and Bangladesh has piqued interest in the game. US cricket clubs are now owned/co-owned by influential Indians such as Satya Nadella and Shantanu Narayen.

Another interesting aspect is that overseas cricketers who play in the USA for just three years are eligible to play for the national team. South African cricketer Cory Anderson, for instance, is now playing for Team USA, which beat Pakistan in the T20 World Cup and defeated the Bangladesh team 2-1 in the T20 series, in the run up to the World Cup. However, for the game to truly become an American sport it must be embraced by the local community (Indians largely constitute the USA team). In *The Talented Field*, the author Tom Melville argues that in the 1900s, cricket did not fail in America because of some catastrophic social disruption, premature technical development, its foreign identity or inadequate promotion. Cricket failed in America because it never established an American character.

The writer at the India-Pak match

I was pleasantly surprised to see local New Yorkers trying out bowling and batting at the temporarily created viewing station near the One World Center. While the World Cup has created some buzz, most Major League matches are played to empty stadiums. Today New York, Florida, Texas and California are the epicentres of cricket in the country but it needs a wider reach. The game must be aggressively built bottom-up and top down. For it to be popular at the grassroots level, there needs to a healthy incentive system. E.g. students playing at the U17 level should get admission to premier colleges (for that to happen cricket has to become a NCAA recognized college sport). Most cricket pitches here are concrete (instead of turf) and that affects the batsman's ability to play quality bowling. Eventually, the ability to make a full-time career out of playing cricket is what will ensure a viable future for the game. Saurav Ganguly, whom I met a day before the India-Pakistan match, was confident that within a decade, cricket can be mainstreamed in the USA!

With India's position in the world improving, bilateral relations between India and the US have gained importance globally, cricket can be used as a soft power for diplomacy between the two countries. Eric Garcetti, the former Mayor of Los Angeles and now the US Ambassador to India, played a significant role in getting cricket included in the LA28 Olympics. The immediate challenge is to keep the momentum and interest going in the duration between the ongoing T20 World Cup and the LA28 Olympics. For Team USA to share an equal playing field with the major cricket-playing countries, a lot of work needs to be done. Building a pipeline of world-class cricketers is a long process. It requires the younger generation to play the game from an early age.



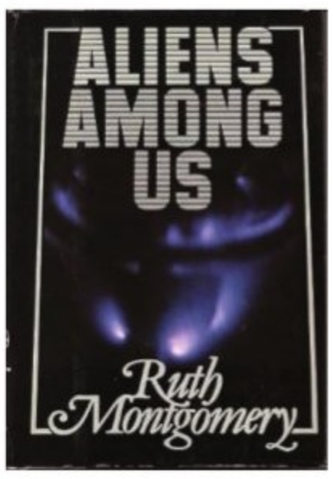
Cricket being telecast for the public near One World Center, New York

While watching the India-Pak match from the stands, eating samosas and chole-kulcha, surrounded by loud and boisterous Indians, I did feel a sense of pride and a feeling that cricket had finally arrived in the USA.

(The writer's views are personal)

THE ALIENS AMONG US, AND ALL THAT

OPEN SPACE
Nirad Mudur
Deputy Resident Editor
niradgmudur@newindianexpress.com



ALLOW me to make a confession which I bet will sound strange. In 1986, a particular book which I had read had a profound effect on me. Fortunately, that effect was temporary, but the effect was profound all the same. It was a book written by an author who had a distinguished career as a reporter, correspondent, and syndicated columnist in Washington, DC, but who subsequently veered off into a career as a psychic, authoring a number of books on metaphysical and New Age subjects. That author was Ruth Shick Montgomery, who died on June 10, 2001 – a day short of completing 89. Her book that cast a profound effect on me was *Aliens Among Us*, which promised a 'dazzling new testimony that extraterrestrials (ETs) are on Earth – about to usher in the New Age'.

Let me explain here what that profound effect on me was, which lasted just a few months, and probably threatened to get me admitted to an asylum had it persisted any longer. The book is about 'dramatic new evidence' of ETs 'who are already among us', and 'how they will guide us through the New Age about to dawn at the end of this century' (This book was published in 1985). You may have guessed... the profound effect on me was that I suspected almost every stranger to be an ET who had come to Earth with a mission as described by Ruth Montgomery. It didn't end there. I even dared, for a while, to think that I was among them too, and what a great thing it would be if it were true!

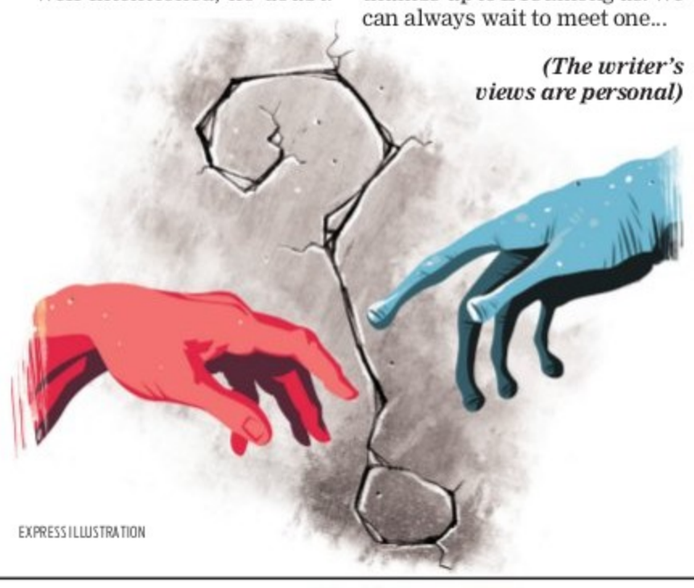
She writes about Arcturus, the fourth brightest star in the night sky, which is about 36.7 light-years from Earth, and the brightest star in the northern constellation Boötes. She writes about meeting 'several fascinating people who are said to have come directly to Earth life from that star', and who reportedly wrote to her: "We have lately been to Arcturus and can tell you quite a lot about the influence that it has on the souls seeking advancement there. It is a leavening star, a force for good, and it is used for honing character and instilling in those who tarry there a desire to return to their respective planets and tell everyone what they have discovered: that each of us is something of God, and that we are all one. Together we form God, and it is therefore essential that we help each other, so that all may advance together."

Well-intentioned, no doubt. But for such extraordinary, extraterrestrial visits to be proven would require fool-proof scientific evidence, without which 'profound effect' is the only thing left behind on minds largely left unconvinced. It's exciting to think of the possibility that Montgomery's narratives were true – but how, is what remains to be answered.

In 1907, Swedish chemist Svante Arrhenius proposed the panspermia hypothesis, which suggests that life exists throughout the Universe, and is distributed by space dust, meteoroids, asteroids, comets, and planetoids. It explores the possibility of life having come to Earth by one, some, or all, of those means. But even over a century later, there is no scientific closure to the argument on how life originated on Earth. There is bound to be no closure on Montgomery's narratives either. Imagination does make a good home sometimes.

But one thing is sure: aliens do exist among us. Those are aliens that we have created from among us, not the ET variety of aliens. When humankind alienates humankind, it is but natural that the human mind craves for help – from Arcturus possibly? – to arrive here like the 'close encounters of the third kind' and vindicate all those sci-fi movies which give a thumbs-up to ETs among us. We can always wait to meet one...

(The writer's views are personal)



EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

LOVEOLOGY
Mahesh Natarajan

(The author is a counsellor with InnerSight)

PRACTISING LOVE

THERE'S an old saying that teachers all around India live to tell their students as they prepare for their exams – "Practice makes perfect." Even when there are no exams, practice makes sense. Singers do their riyaaz, athletes are constantly training, and even masters of their craft, be it sculptors or painters or whatever else, are constantly practising. Chefs are constantly cooking, not just new recipes they want to try out but old standards that they want to perfect to keep their customers coming back.

If it is true about so many things, why wouldn't it be true about love? If we practice loving each other on a regular basis, wouldn't we find it easier and better? What is it about love that we often end up treating it as if it doesn't need to develop, become more nuanced, richer, deeper and more expressive?

Think of it. In your relationship, has the practice of love become more, or has it become less over the years? For a majority of us, all the practice of love comes early in the relationship; when we are wooing each other, and once the deal is done, so to speak, the practice of love gets into a kind of maintenance mode at best – a few actions here and there that show love, if not every day, at least on anniversaries and birthdays. Even then, it rarely meets the high benchmarks set at the time of courtship or in the early days of the relationship. A lot of the time, we treat the people we love as fellow travellers in our lives, and do not pay attention to actually loving them.

Are you working on loving your partner more and more as the days go along? Are you practising love like you would practice any art form, or even at work, where you would take some time every year to get some continuing professional development or upskill yourself?

We think of love as something spontaneous, that it should just happen. We may even think of love as an underlying framework upon which the relationship is built, but that it doesn't really need anything – as if it was a vehicle upon which other tasks of life ride, like raising a family, running a business, and so on. Others might see love as just the means to an end, the goal being a steady, secure relationship that one can take as given. What if we flipped that on its head, and really saw love as something of an art form that we need to practice over and over again, in pursuit of a perfection that we might never achieve, but to which we can still aspire? How would you feel, think and act differently if you saw your love as something you need to get better at over time? How would that change you?

Maybe every day you'll think about love, think about how you can demonstrate your love, give and receive love, how you could love in nuanced and subtle ways, and big, grand gestures. One way or another, practice helps.

(The writer's views are personal)

NUGGETS

Class 11 student recognised for cancer research

A Class 11 student of Greenwood High was recently recognised for her research on the side effects of cancer treatment at a US STEM competition. **Keerthana Rajesh** earned a special award at the Regeneron International Science and Engineering Fair 2024, the world's largest pre-college STEM competition that was held at Los Angeles, USA recently. She presented a project on Translational Medical Science at the event and was a finalist among top 20 projects that constituted Team India at ISEF. The event hosted 1,700 finalists from 67 countries. The research she presented at the Los Angeles event in Translational Medicine was titled Wound Simulator: An in-vitro study of a novel biological growth factor concentrate on Oral Mucositis. Oral mucositis is a chronic wound and a prevalent side effect of most cancer treatments which impacts the quality of life of patients by deteriorating their nutrition, course of cancer treatment and lowering their life expectancy. Remarking on the recognition, Rajesh said, "STEM has been and will continue to be the most constant and important aspect of my academic journey. While it might sound clichéd, I fell in love with research and biology from the day I observed mitosis under the microscope in middle school; and since then, I knew I wanted to use biomedical health sciences to spread knowledge and hope."

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) **SUNDEEP KUMAR N.** aged about 23 years S/o. Nihal Chand Jain and Sarika Jain Residing at Kamal Dev Kunj, No. 19, K 3rd Street, Ashok Nagar, Bangalore - 560025, have changed my name from (OLD NAME) SUNDEEP KUMAR N. to (NEW NAME) **SANDEEP KUMAR N.** vide affidavit dated 29.02.2024 sworn before Notary Prasad Shetty K.B., Bengaluru-560042, Reg. No.12624

CHANGE OF NAME

We, **Sandeep Mohan** and **Meghashree S** R/a #597/B, Behind Reliance Petrol Bunk, SM Layout, Hoskote- 562114 have changed our minor Daughter's Name from **S VEERA SHARAB** to **VEERA S SHARAB** (DOB: 13.9.2021) vide affidavit dated 12.6.2024 sworn before Notary **D.G. Shanthappa,** Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SUPRIY BHATTACHARYA , Residing at No. 301 AB Residency, 13th Main, 12th Cross, BTM Layout 2nd Stage, Bangalore – 560076 have changed my name to **SUPRIYO BHATTACHARYA** Affidavit dated 17.06.2024 sworn before advocate and notary CN Balasubramanyam, Bangalore

For SMART ADS & THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

Contact : Mr Ravi Kumar
9886550650
080-22866893

SUDEEP HINTS AT AUGUST RELEASE FOR MUCH-ANTICIPATED *MAX*

The star also acknowledged the industry's struggle with dwindling theatre audience but remained optimistic, asserting, that the key is to keep producing quality films

A still from the film

CE FEATURES

KICHCHASUDEEP'S much-anticipated *Max* is eyeing an August release, the actor himself dropped a hint at a media interaction during the *Ramarasa* film launch event. The makers recently wrapped production after shooting in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu extensively. Sudeep, upon completing filming, shared a heartfelt video expressing gratitude to the team for their support throughout the 10-month journey.

"Shooting and dubbing of *Max* is completed. The post-production work is in progress. *Max* is most likely to release in August," confirmed Sudeep, hinting at the film's imminent arrival. Films like Shivarajkumar's multilingual *Bhairathi Ranagal* and Allu Arjun's *Pushpa 2* were initially scheduled for August release. *Max* has now eyed a release in the second week of the month, especially after *Pushpa 2*'s postponement to December, according to a source.

Directed by Vijay Karthikeyan and produced by Kalaippuli S Thanu's V Creations, *Max* is billed as an action-packed entertainer. The film stars Varalaxmi Sarathkumar, reuniting with Sudeep after Maanikya, alongside Samyuktha Hornad, Sukratha Wagle, and Anirudh Bhat in pivotal roles. Shivakumar is set to handle art direction, while Ajaneesh B Loknath will compose the music, and Shekar Chandra will crank the camera.

When asked about the industry's challenges with declining theatre attendance, Sudeep remained optimistic. "Audiences used to flock to theatres, but recent mistakes have contributed to lower turnout," he acknowledged. Undeterred, he mentioned the efforts by senior technicians and actors to innovate, affirming, "The key is to keep producing quality films."

Looking ahead, Sudeep's upcoming projects include a film with director Cheran under Sathya Jyothi Films, co-starring *KGF* actor Srinidhi Shetty. His lineup also includes *Billa Ranga Baashaa* directed by Anup Bhandari and a collaboration with KRG Studios. Discussions are also underway with Hemanth M Rao of *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello* fame for a film backed by Sandesh Productions.

Sudeep

Jay Shetty

'Films have been my primary source of knowledge'

...says actor Jay Shetty, as he and director Chetan Chandrashekar Shetty discuss their upcoming film, *Sambhavami Yuge Yuge*

A SHARADHAA

JAY SHETTY, who started her career with regular jobs, ventured into the business world before finally pursuing his passion, acting. He made his debut with Vasishta Bantanur's 2023 film *1975* and is now gearing up for the release of his sophomore, the Chetan Chandrashekar directorial *Sambhavami Yuge Yuge*, on June 21. Before its release, the makers unveiled a lengthy trailer, running four minutes and 48 seconds, making it one of Kannada cinema's longest trailers.

Originally from Kundapura, Jay Shetty's passion for cinema bloomed early, shaped by his avid film-watching habits in theatres from coastal areas. "Regardless of box office performances I have always watched and continue to watch every film, to understand performances and filmmaking, as it is my only source of knowledge," he recalls. "Due to this practice, I developed a serious passion for acting. I received the opportunity to star in *1975*, which marked my introduction to the industry. Now, I'm excited about Sambhavami Yuge Yuge,'" he says.

Chetan Chandrashekar Shetty

The film's title is derived from a line in the Mahabharata spoken by Krishna. "The film blends mythological themes with contemporary storytelling, balancing commercial appeal and meaningful content. It will feature characters similar to Krishna and Arjuna played by noted actor Ashok Balakrishna and me, respectively," Jay says.

Director Chetan Chandrashekar Shetty has based *Sambhavami Yuge Yuge* on real-life events that will explore how people left cities and settled in villages. "Village life is crucial, and urbanisation threatens its existence. I fear we may face an unrealistic situation in two generations. The film delves into the challenges faced by an educated youth striving to transform his village into a model, amidst opposition from egoistic land swindlers," mentions Chetan.

Describing the film's screenplay, he states, "The first half is rich in content and themes, providing a suspenseful journey. There is comedy, music, action, and a heartfelt mother sentiment. The second half unfolds with engaging elements." The director stressed that Sudharani's character is pivotal as she is set to portray a blind mother. "Her character seeks her husband in the village and finds support to live there, giving back to society through her son," he says.

Apart from Jay Shetty as the lead, the film features Nisha Rajput as the female lead, while senior actor Bhavya will be seen in a pivotal role. The supporting cast also includes Abhay Puneeth, Ashwin Haasan, and Pramod Shetty. *Sambhavami Yuge Yuge* has cinematography by Raju Hemmigepura and music by Prankrin Rakhi.

Veteran stunt master Kaurava Venkatesh to make directorial debut with *Cocaine*

CE FEATURES

STUNT MASTER Kaurava Venkatesh, known for his work in over 1,500 films spanning 25 years, is all set to make his directorial debut in Kannada with *Cocaine*. The film's muhurat ceremony took place recently, following which the makers started production.

The story and screenplay of *Cocaine*, which carries the tagline "The Definition of Patriotism," are penned by Pratham, the winner of Bigg Boss season 4. Pratham is all set to play the lead in the film, which is produced by Puneeth under the Ayodhya Ram Productions banner.

The film explores patriotism through a female-driven story, focusing on a mission to intercept a 1000-crore container from Nigeria being transported from Bengaluru to Goa. When Interpol fails, the central government intervenes. Ultimately, the hero and heroine use humour and action to cleverly foil the plan.

Interestingly, politician BC Patil portrays a Union Minister, while Om Prakash Rao takes on the role of an inspector in *Cocaine*. According to the makers, the film will feature four songs and five action-packed sequences, with shooting planned in Bengaluru, Mangaluru, and possibly Russia for certain song sequences.

The film, starring *Bigg Boss* fame Pratham along with Aarana and Anvithi Shetty, will feature senior actor BC Patil in a pivotal role

Anvithi Shetty, Pratham and Aarana

Kaurava Venkatesh

'Aegon is way more complex than Joffrey'

PRASHANTH VALLAVAN

On the surface, it might seem like both *Game of Thrones* and *House of the Dragon* are both about larger forces fighting for the throne. However, upon closer inspection, it seems like the prequel series is more about an ever-escalating family feud rather than an absolute lust for power. And it only gets more personal and uglier as the story unfolds. The first season of *HOTD* ended on a grim note, with Aemond Targaryen brutally murdering Lucerys Velaryon, the son of Rhaenyra Targaryen. As allegiances start to solidify and the news of Lucery's death fanning the flames of the war even further, season two is lathered with grief and rage, and it seems to have an effect on every single character. Matt Smith, who plays Daemon Targaryen in the series, says that his character always had a tough time dealing with grief and that it is only going to affect him worse this season. "Even in season one, the death of his brother Viserys (Targaryen) forced him into a dark period of self-reflection and he is walking towards a deep dark hole, which is quite mysterious."

While grief might have pushed Daemon into a period of brooding introspection, it had the opposite effect on others. Ser Criston Cole, who started off as an amiable, charming knight at the beginning of the series, turned into someone full of rage and vengeance towards the end. Fabien Frankel, who plays Ser Criston Cole, reveals that there is more to Cole than what we see on the screen. "The way that the show is structured, you are only seeing what the story wants you to see. How you see a character reacting to grief in a scene is not necessarily what is going on internally. For example, in real life, people lose their family members and still go to work on the same day. You would have no idea what would happen when they go back home. It would be a completely overwhelming experience for them." He then adds, "It might seem like Criston Cole has a handle on his emotions and that he only expresses his grief as anger but there are a bunch of other ways he is affected, which we don't get to see."

While Criston Cole and Daemon are at the peripheries of the effect of Lucerys's death, the one who is at the centre of the storm, along with his mother Rhaenyra, is Jacaerys Velaryon. On how the death of his brother changed Jacaerys, Harry Collett, who plays the character, says, "Grief can do a lot to a person but for Jacerys, the only good thing that came out of it, is that it matured him. All he wants to do now is take revenge and in order to do that he cannot be childish. He has to be level-headed and do things the right way and make good decisions. It enabled his transition from boy to man." While all eyes are on the throne, the one currently on it is King Aegon II Targaryen, played by Tom Glynn-Carney. A young king, brattish in countenance, and with questionable claims to the throne, would easily evoke the memory of Joffrey Baratheon, the infamous tyrant from the *Game of Thrones* series. However, Tom assures us that Aegon is very different from Joffrey. "I think Aegon is an empath, which is not what Joffrey was. I think he has the potential and capability to love. He is a product of his own nurturing." He then declares, "Aegon is way more complex than Joffrey." However, the actor agrees that it is fun to play a cold, calculated psychopath like Joffrey. Fans of the show, who caught up on the first episode of the season, which was released on Monday in India, might realise that Aegon goes on to be at the receiving end of overwhelming grief towards the end. While the second season might have started on a sombre note, everything points towards grief turning into anger, and from the embers of rage, it seems all but likely that war might spread like wildfire across Westeros.